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THE JERUSALEM POST

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Barak doesn't expect apology from Hanegbi

By LIAT COLLINS and DANNA HARMAN

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak's apparent exoneration in the 1992 Tze'elim 2 training accident by the state comptroller continued to be bandied about by politicians on the Left and Right yesterday.

Barak said he does not expect an apology from Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi for his accusation that, when chief of General Staff, he had abandoned injured soldiers following a training mishap that killed five soldiers. He also insisted Labor would not exploit the affair as part of its election campaign.

But neither Labor nor the Likud appear to have decided what role – if any – the affair will play in their campaigns in the long term.

President Ezer Weizman said that, although he had not read the report, he is "happy every time that someone is found not guilty... I was happy for [Barak]. I was happy for the IDF and I was happy that these things have come to light."

Opposition MKs demanded Hanegbi apologize for his Knesset plenum speech playing on Barak's name with the phrase "Ehud *barah*" (Ehud fled). They were joined by Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit, who said Hanegbi should apologize if he had harmed Barak, while Labor should apologize for some of the things it has said in the past. Shas leader Aryeh Deri also called on Hanegbi to apologize, and if not, for Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to make him do so.

See BARAK, Page 4

Splattering the mud

ANALYSIS

Remember John Jay Sullivan? He was supposed to be the alias used by CIA double-agent Binyamin Netanyahu. His cover was blown by two diligent *Yediot Aharonot* reporters, whose unsubstantiated findings were seized upon enthusiastically by Labor politicians, most prominently and bluntly by Dalia Itzik, who even carpingly raised the matter in the Knesset.

She never apologized, backtracked, or regretted anything. She never so much as even admitted on the record that Netanyahu is not an American spy.

Likewise, it is unrealistic to expect Tzahi Hanegbi to apologize for using a much less outlandish *Yediot* expose on the 1992 Tze'elim 2 training accident in his railings from the Knesset podium. That is just not how things work in politics.

Self-righteous outrage and sanctimonious demands for apologies, however, are very much part of the political game. These are weapons to be wielded against the adversary. The much publicized, well orchestrated demands from one's rivals for atonement and mea culpas are not naive appeals to make nice, but are part of a deliberate political barrage.

Such volleys, though, can backfire big time, simply because there is no safe way to tell how mass psychology operates. The working assumption on both sides of the political divide should be that it functions in strange, unexpected ways.

See ANALYSIS, Page 4

PA Police kills 2 Gazans

Rioting sparked by death sentence

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and BEN LYNFIELD

Two Palestinian teenagers were killed by Palestinian policemen during fierce clashes in the south Gaza Strip town of Rafah yesterday, after a Palestinian Authority security court sentenced a Hamas activist to death for the murder of a security officer.

The court sentenced Hamas activist and former security agent Raed Attar, 25, to death by firing squad, while Mohammed Abu Shamaleh, 25, got life imprisonment with hard labor, and Osama Abu Taha, 24, received 15 years' hard labor for the murder of Preventive Security Service Col. Rifa'at Judeh on February 1.

The court said that the three, also wanted by Israel, are members of the Hamas military wing, Izzadin Kassam. Israel says they planned attacks in Israel and were responsible for the murder of IDF Lt. Guy Ovadia in Gaza five years ago.

As Attar was led out of the courtroom he called out, "This proves to all of you that there is no justice in Palestine."

Outside the courtroom members of Attar's family wept at the verdict and shouted "We want justice!" and "We will not allow this sentence to pass!" Family members marched to Judeh's home and threw stones and bottles. The angry crowd set fire to tires near police headquarters and threw stones and bottles.

There were reports that armed Hamas members were among the rioters. The incidents mostly involved members of the influential Judeh and Attar families serving in different security branches.

Mohammed Judeh, brother of the victim, said the family was pleased with the sentence, and issued a chilling warning to the Attars. "If they turn this into a clan vendetta, then we will be more than happy to make it into that."



Relatives of Raed Attar, sentenced to death by a Gaza security court yesterday for killing a police officer, protest shortly before riots exploded in Rafah, in which police killed two teenagers. (AP)

The unrest forced Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to cut short his visit with Jordan's King Abdullah II in Amman and return to Gaza.

The two teenagers, Ala Hams, 17, and Hamis Salameh, 18, were killed and at least 10 were wounded by live ammunition used by Palestinian police to disperse the rioters.

At a press conference in Gaza last night, Palestinian Police Gen. Ghazi Jabali charged that IDF soldiers were responsible for the deaths of the two Palestinian teenagers and the wounding of six during the clashes. IDF sources denied the claims and said that no shots were fired by its troops in the area.

Hundreds of mourners carrying black flags accompanied Hams and Salameh, who was reportedly buried hours later. Last night police imposed a curfew in Rafah and set up roadblocks near the police station.

David Bar-Illan, communications adviser to the prime minister, said Attar and the two others were on a wanted list that Israel gave the PA after the July 1994 killing of Ovadia. "It was only when he killed a Palestinian officer that he was brought to trial and sentenced to death," Bar-Illan said, adding "that is not a happy indication for us, that the murder of Jews is not cause for punishment, but for promotion."

It was not clear when the death sentence is to be carried out. Another death sentence handed down last month against a Palestinian colonel convicted of child-rape was carried out within hours.

The Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group called on Arafat not to uphold the death sentence, stating that the trial was unfair and the Palestinian Legislative Council has not yet approved a law that allows execution. Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin charged that the verdict was unfair. "I hope the president [Arafat] will make a just decision that will prevent a crisis," he said.

News agencies contributed to this report.



From left: Yitzhak Mordechai, Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Dan Meridor, and Ronni Milo celebrate the official launch of the Center Party last night in Tel Aviv. (Ilan Ossendryver/Israel Sun)

Mordechai attacks Barak for first time

By DANNA HARMAN

With laser beams bouncing off the walls, a 2,000-strong crowd clapping to the snappy music, and blue, white, and green balloons falling from the ceiling, Yitzhak Mordechai, Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Dan Meridor, and Ronni Milo officially launched the Center Party last night at the Tel Aviv Cinerama.

Mordechai attacked Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's policies and manner of leadership, and also, for the first time, frontally attacked Labor Party leader Ehud Barak. "Barak cannot understand Israeli society the way I can, and cannot unite the people," he said. "He will not be able to talk with the Orthodox, or understand the Mizrahi mentality, or the Arab one. He will not be able to bring about unity," said Mordechai.

Mordechai, who promised that the formal party platform will be presented within 10 days and the party list within a week, gave a preview of the platform when he ran off a large list of principles the party has committed itself to.

In the diplomatic arena, Mordechai said the party would work to promote the peace process and implement the Wye agreement, as well as strengthen relations with Egypt and Jordan. He said he intends to call on Syria to return to the negotiating table, and call on Lebanon to take on responsibility for security in south Lebanon.

"I suggest that we get the IDF out of Lebanon and transfer security responsibility to the Lebanese Army. I do not think we should try and find new tactical solutions to Lebanon, but rather go for a strategic decision which is the only way to change the situation," said Mordechai. He also said that Jerusalem would remain Israel's eternal, united capital.

Mordechai then touched upon a slew of social and economic issues, saying that he would work on narrowing gaps between the people – be they between secular and Orthodox, men and women, Sepharadim and Ashkenazim, new immigrants and veteran citizens, Arabs and Jews.

See MORDECHAI, Page 3

Suissa suspends Jerusalem Religious Council

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

In an apparent attempt to bypass the law that ensures the right of non-Orthodox members to sit on religious councils, Religious Affairs Minister Eli Suissa yesterday suspended the Jerusalem Religious Council and named its head as caretaker.

It is believed to be the first time ever that a religious council has been suspended.

Rabbi Avner Amar, senior adviser to Suissa, announced the latest development last night when he appeared, 25 minutes late, after the council failed to convene for the fourth consecutive time.

"As of this past Sunday, Rabbi Yitzhak Ralbag, head of the religious council, is appointed caretaker," Amar announced in Suissa's name. "He'll be unable to fire workers or to introduce new workers, but he'll be responsible for the day to day functioning of the council, in everything connected to it. This order will stand until the members of the council convene of their own volition."

Amar did not explain why he sent invitations to the meeting to members of the council on Sunday, the same day Suissa issued his order suspending the council.

"We will not take this sitting down," said Rabbi Uri Regev, executive director of the Israel Religious Action Center, who had complained to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein that Suissa was not fulfilling his mandate under the law.

"We will challenge the legality of attempting to circumvent both the law and the court rulings, and prevent the participation of duly appointed members in the councils. We expect to obtain the official order that the minister signed, and upon receiving it, probably within a day or two, we'll petition the High Court of Justice again. As much as we do not like to see that happening, as much as we do not like to drag the court into it again, I'm afraid that there may be no choice."

The law states that the minister has the authority to appoint someone if the council does not function in one specific matter, which is how Suissa is interpreting the situation. Secondly, the law says that if the council does not function altogether – the interpretation of the Conservative and Reform members of the council – then the minister must appoint an inquiry committee to investigate the state of the council. A member of the Attorney-General's Office must be appointed to that inquiry committee.

"This is an exercise in undermining their own laws," said Rabbi Naamah Kelman, the Reform member of the council. "Obviously they're hurting – monies aren't being allocated for salaries, so this will be a way to get the monies moving. But what we're saying is that it seems outrageous to us that Ralbag, who has actively and flagrantly gone against the law, against government – he should be the one appointed? This is once again a flagrant spitting in the face of democracy."

Rabbi Ehud Bandel, the Conservative member of the council, called the injunction "a disgrace" and said he was saddened by the turn of events, "because I had hoped that we could meet and work together. I know that there are Orthodox members of this council who are upset about this thing, but unfortunately they surrendered to the pressure from an extreme minority. It's sad, because I think Jerusalem deserves better."

Schools start late today as teachers protest stalled wage talks

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Classes are to begin two hours late today, at 10 a.m., as part of sanctions being taken by the Histadrut Teachers Union to press demands for a new wage agreement. The strike excludes 12th grade and special education classes.

Secondary School Teachers Association teachers will be working as usual, but the strike is still expected to affect most of the educational system.

"We cannot accept a situation in which a teacher in Israel with an academic degree earns NIS 3,700 gross in his third year of teaching," union secretary-general Avraham Ben-Shabbat said yesterday after an emergency meeting of union officials in Tel Aviv.

Ben-Shabbat said Treasury officials' accusations that the teachers are simply trying to exploit the elections for financial gain will not keep them from pressing their just demands, aimed at saving the educational system and improving teachers' standing.

"The teachers are the heart of the Israeli educational system. If we continue to insult them with low wages and ignore their warnings about overcrowded classrooms, the effect that cutbacks have had on educational achievements and the physical conditions of the schools, we will be abandoning our children," he added.

Union officials said they had tired of hearing Treasury officials belittle the problem.

Meanwhile, Secondary Schools Teachers Association Chairman Ran Erez and his staff yesterday sent urgent telegrams to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Education Minister Yitzhak Levy, and Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit, calling on them to hold an emergency meeting to discuss the education system and the status of teachers in Israel.

In the telegram to Netanyahu, issued after a late-night gathering by Erez and his staff to discuss the stalled wage negotiations, Erez wrote that the future of the education system "is in the balance," and that "immediately with the resumption of negotiations on a new wage agreement for 1999, we became aware of the government representatives' lack of awareness and understanding regarding the importance of the educational system and its advancement.

"At this very time, when the public is required to make decisive decisions regarding the fate of the nation, we must all underscore the importance of education as being our top national priority... We don't plan on simply accepting the empty slogans being used by the various candidates who state the importance of education," Erez said. "We want specific plans and clear commitments to advance education and the status of teachers in Israel."

Besides the telegram, association members plan on sending faxes, letters, and making phone calls to candidates in the upcoming elections and confronting politicians on these issues during campaign appearances.

NEWS
in brief

Decision in Mossad agent trial expected today

The Tel Aviv District Court is expected to rule today in the trial of Yehuda Gil, a former Mossad agent suspected of submitting false reports on about Syria. Gil, who worked as a full-time Mossad agent from 1970 until 1989 and worked for the agency part-time after retiring until his arrest in November 1997, was charged with espionage, conveying information with the intent of harming state security, theft by a public servant, and fraudulently receiving money under aggravated circumstances.

Gil's lawyer Eitan Maoz said yesterday that he was optimistic about the outcome of the complicated case. *Heidi J. Gleit*

Abdullah urges Arafat to postpone declaration

Jordan's King Abdullah II urged Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Amman yesterday not to declare a state on May 4, an Arafat aide said. The king told Arafat "it would preferable to delay the declaration," said Arafat's representative in Jordan, Omar Kharib. Arafat returned to Gaza without speaking to reporters. Abbas Zaki, a hawkish Arafat supporter, told a seminar in Jordan the Palestinians were assessing European and Arab advice that a May 4 proclamation would boost the Israeli Right in elections. He added that the Palestinians had promises of recognition from 114 countries. *AP*

Walker: US to press for peace after elections

The United States intends to move forward with the peace process "aggressively" after the May elections, US Ambassador to Israel Edward Walker said yesterday. Speaking at a meeting of the Israeli-Palestinian media forum in Jerusalem's American Colony Hotel, Walker said the US saw an opportunity after the elections to move ahead rapidly with the peace process and final-status negotiations. The ambassador said the US opposed a May 4 unilateral declaration of independence by the Palestinians because the peace process is predicated on mutuality, and a negotiated outcome of all final-status issues. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Arens to reorganize helicopter command

Defense Minister Moshe Arens has pushed through a reform of helicopter command in the Air Force and last night approved a proposal to form a chopper corps. The proposals, which were also accepted by the Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, would allow there to be a supreme commander pertaining to helicopter matters in the IAF. Arens has said he wants to see a better integration between helicopters and ground forces. The head of the helicopter corps would now be directly subordinate to the head of the Air Force instead of the head of the IAF air arm. The helicopter fleet commander will also set up a small staff which will deal with the changing chopper doctrine and training. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Police recommend charging Amman guard

Police yesterday recommended that a security officer who fatally wounded security guard Sorek Geffen in a shooting accident two weeks ago at the Israeli Embassy in Amman should be charged with negligent manslaughter. After completing their investigation, police handed their recommendations to the Jerusalem district prosecutor, who will decide whether to press charges. The shooting occurred while security guards conducted a training exercise at the embassy. The wounded Geffen was flown back to Israel, where he died in hospital. *Itim*

Nuclear material on flight to Israel lost

South Africa's Atomic Energy Corporation is reviewing security procedures after a container of radioactive material went missing at Johannesburg's airport, a spokeswoman said yesterday.

The 89 kg container, which holds a medical isotope called molybdenum-99, was booked to be flown by German carrier Lufthansa Cargo to Israel but disappeared at the airport.

An international search is going on to try to recover the container, lost on March 2 and believed to have been snatched by thieves who might have been unaware of its contents. The isotope, used for medical diagnosis, has no military applications and the radiation danger is slight, said AEC spokeswoman Lola Patrick. *Reuters*

US defense secretary arrives today

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

US Secretary of Defense William Cohen arrives today for a one-day visit as he winds up a sweep of the Middle East.

But his official reception will only be tomorrow morning at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv, where he will be received by an honor guard. He is taking the unusual step of honoring the IDF's Home Front disaster team which participated in the rescue work following the terrorist bombing of the US embassy in Nairobi, Kenya.

Later Cohen and his entourage will hold a working meeting with his Israeli counterpart Moshe Arens and top defense officials. On the agenda is the funding for a third Arrow 2 anti-ballistic missile battery. During his last visit here Cohen said the United States would fund the third battery.

The two will also no doubt speak of the agreement to upgrade strategic and military cooperation between Israel and United States, as called for in a recently signed strategic memorandum. Arens will host Cohen at a semi-official dinner tonight.

Arens and Cohen were first acquainted while Arens was ambassador in Washington and Cohen was a congressman. But this will be their first meeting in their present positions.

US officials said that Cohen is not expected to meet with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, nor with Labor Party leader Ehud Barak or former defense minister and Center Party leader Yitzhak Mordechai, with whom he developed warm relations over the past two years, so as not to appear to be getting involved with internal Israeli politics.

Cohen comes to Israel from Egypt, where he arrived from Jordan yesterday. He is scheduled to hold talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak this morning, before flying to Israel.

Yesterday he met with Jordan's King Abdullah II for 90-minutes at Amman's Raghadan Palace. After lunch, Cohen laid a wreath at the grave of King Hussein, who died February 7.

On aid to Jordan, Cohen said the United States is moving forward with an economic package of some $300 million. A senior US defense official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said roughly two thirds – some $220 million – of the package would go toward Jordan's armed forces.

Earlier yesterday, Cohen held talks in Kuwait with defense officials and the emir, Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah. The defense secretary agreed to help Gulf states erect a shared early warning system that would warn them about missiles fired from Iraq or Iran.

Cohen told reporters in Amman that the US firmly believes that "the Iraqi people will not enjoy the benefits and fruits of peace and prosperity until such time when there is a change in regime."

"It's up to each country to express its own opinion about that," he added.

News agencies contributed to this report

Congress to oppose unilateral PA state

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON – The House and Senate are poised to pass resolutions calling on President Bill Clinton to oppose a unilateral declaration of statehood by Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Ninety-five of the 100 Senators are prepared to approve the measure, while more than 250 of the 435 members of the House of Representatives have signed on as co-sponsors.

The House international relations committee was scheduled to consider the resolution late yesterday, with the full House voting on it next week. The Senate is likely to vote today.

The resolution, which is not binding, expresses Congress's opposition to a possible statehood declaration and urges Clinton "to continue to assert clearly US opposition to such a unilateral declaration of statehood."

That portion was amended in a meeting yesterday at the request of Democratic Senator Gary Ackerman after committee members were persuaded that Clinton has been speaking out against a statehood declaration, congressional sources stated. The original language called on Clinton "to assert clearly" his opposition.

But the originator of the resolution, Matt Salmon, is said to be fuming over the behavior of a fellow Republican, Tom Campbell, for raising a procedural motion to block the committee's passage of the resolution yesterday morning.

During the deliberations, Campbell – whom a Salmon aide later termed "probably Yasser Arafat's number-one fan in the US Congress" – urged that the resolution be delayed until after the Israeli election out of a concern that its passage would help Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

The Salmon aide said that, on the contrary, it is Arafat's declaring a state that could assist Netanyahu in the election.

Campbell's effort was defeated. But when the resolution came to a vote, Campbell invoked a quorum call, and since one member was not present the vote could not take place.

"To resort to such procedural gimmicks is atrocious," Salmon's aide said. "It's an inappropriate way to deal with this. Tom Campbell made his case – a pathetic case – that I don't think was accepted by any of his colleagues." Campbell was unavailable for comment.



President Ezer Weizman (left) shakes hands yesterday with Salah Bassiouny, president of the Egyptian Peace Movement, as former Foreign Ministry director-general David Kimche looks on. The Beit Hanassi meeting was organized by the Israel Council on Foreign Relations. (Isaac Harari)

Egypt, Israel differ on depth of peace

By BEN LYNFIELD

Twenty years after making peace, Egypt and Israel are using different thermometers to gauge the temperature of their relations.

This became apparent during a gathering yesterday at Beit Hanassi organized by the Israel Council on Foreign Relations, when two Egyptian speakers, Salah Bassiouny, president of the Egyptian Peace Movement and Abd el-Monem Said, director of Al Ahram Institute for Strategic Studies, sought to expunge the term "cold peace" from the Egyptian-Israeli vocabulary.

But the Israeli speakers, President Ezer Weizman and former ambassador to Egypt Shimon Shamir, said relations could definitely be warmer than they are.

The temperature difference reflects the mixed feelings about the peace treaty on both sides. On the one hand, there is satisfaction that it has held its own through trials and crises. But Egypt's hopes for a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace have gone unrealized, while Israel's aspirations for a broad fabric of relations with Cairo now appear beyond reach, if not conception.

Bassiouny, a former ambassador to the Soviet Union, said that while the term cold peace is used commonly, it is inaccurate. "If you look deeper you will find that relations between Egypt and Israel are much more normal than the relations of Egypt with many of the countries with whom we have diplomatic relations."

In a bid to rebut criticism that Egypt is not doing its best to promote intercultural relations, Bassiouny said: "Are you [Israelis] really going ahead among your public opinion to solve the Palestinian question? Do you accept intercultural exchange between you and your Arab neighbors?" In Said's view, relations during the 1980s were marred by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the Taba dispute, and the intifada, but "warmed up beyond all the known standards of the Middle East" after the Madrid Conference was held in 1991.

From 1991-96, Egyptian-Israeli trade accounted for 8-10 percent of total Egyptian trade, he said. In 1995, 30,000 Egyptians visited Israel, the largest number of visitors to any Middle East country other than for work or pilgrimage, he added. To buttress his argument, he also cited statistics showing that in 1996 there were 1,039 instances of Egyptian-Israeli mixed marriages, more than with any other country in the region.

Shamir noted that the treaty has been very successful in keeping peace between the two countries, but, he said, the relationship is actually "more problematic" than Bassiouny and Said indicated.

"In the area of cooperative relations, which is the essence of peace building, much more could have been done for the benefit of both sides: more joint ventures, more trade, more economic cooperation," Shamir said.

"Yes we have learned much about each other, but after 20 years of peace there is still too much hostile speech and loud voices that speak in Egypt about Israel in a language that is not congruent with commitment to peace," Shamir said. Israeli youth also need to be made more aware of the importance of peace, he added.

Weizman, who has been involved in Egyptian-Israeli relations since president Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem in 1977, blamed the "cold peace" on the absence of a resolution of the Palestinian issue.

"If there is a bit of a cold peace – and I think it's not as warm as it should be – it is because the Palestinian problem has not yet been solved," he said. "I'm sure it will be, and the relationship with Egypt will be back at what it should be."

Activists protest anti-Arab practices in West Bank, J'lem

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Israelis must oppose the "perpetuation of the occupation" by helping to rebuild Palestinian homes demolished by the IDF and replant trees uprooted by settlers, the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions said yesterday.

At a press conference in Jerusalem's Beit Agron the organizers said Israelis must also oppose new bypass roads which break up the West Bank into isolated enclaves.

The movements that make up the committee include Rabbis for Human Rights, Gush Shalom, Bat Shalom, The Alternative Information Center and student bodies from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University.

A structure of occupation, displacement and apartheid has been systematically imposed on Palestinians to ensure Israeli control, the committee's reports said, adding that tens of thousands of donams of agricultural land had been confiscated by Israeli authorities.

Civil Administration spokesman Lt. Peter Lerner said all land was expropriated for public use, mostly for new roads to serve both Palestinians and Israelis. The landowners receive compensation upon proof of ownership, he said.

This is sometimes true, said Rabbi Arik Ascherman of Rabbis for Human Rights, but there are many cases where land is confiscated for "security reasons" and roads are built where others are close by.

Since 1967 the committee claimed some 6,000 West Bank and Jerusalem Arab homes have been demolished. Lerner confirmed 1,300 illegally built Palestinian homes demolished since 1990.

Jerusalem Municipality spokesman Hagai Elias said that in the last five years the municipality has issued 205 demolition orders of Arab homes but demolished only 56. In contrast, 97 demolition orders were issued in predominantly Jewish west Jerusalem and 47 were implemented. Elias said illegal structures are demolished only where no permit can be given such as in green areas, public areas and areas in close proximity to roads and highways.

He stressed that over several years the municipality has poured some NIS 200 million shekels into infrastructure work in Arab areas of the city.

Meanwhile, near the A-Ram checkpoint in north Jerusalem, women from Hadash, the Arab-Jewish party, and from the Palestinian Workers' Society protested discrimination against Palestinian women. They said that during closures last year, two Palestinian women in labor and seven babies died because they were prevented from entering Israel.

The Board of Directors and Management of IDB Holding Corporation Ltd.

deeply mourn the passing of

HERMAN MERKIN ז"ל

a Director of our company and long-time friend of the IDB Group

and extend their sincere condolences to the family.

We mourn the passing of

a Director of our Company

HERMAN MERKIN ז"ל

and extend sincere condolences to the family.

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We deeply grieve the passing of our dear friend

HERMAN MERKIN ז"ל

and extend our heartfelt condolences to
Ulla and all the family

Dina and Raphael Recanati and the Recanati families

With deep sorrow and utter sadness we announce the passing in the fullness of age of

RUTH (Meme) WEIL ז"ל

Mourned by:
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Myriam and **Jacques Salomon**
Daniel and **Daniella Weil**
Evelyn and **Micky Schimmel**
Her brother, sister, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren

Shiva at the Weil residence, 34 Rehov Alfasi, Jerusalem.

To Henry Weil and family

Heartfelt condolences on the loss of your mother

RUTH WEIL ז"ל

המקום ינחם אתכם

The Management and Staff of Koffolk (1949) Ltd.

With profound sorrow and grief we announce the death after a severe illness of our beloved wife, mother and grandmother

MARCIA AMINOV ז"ל

The funeral will take place today, Thursday, March 11, 1999 (23 Adar 5759) at 2 p.m. at the Sde Yehoshua Cemetery (Kfar Samir), Haifa.

The funeral will depart from the Brosh gate.

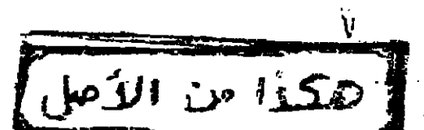
The Bereaved Family

Shiva at the home of the deceased.

The Ezra Association, Jerusalem,
regrets to announce the passing of its beloved Life President

RUTH WEIL





هكذا من الأصل

Ovadia Yosef, son, get court summons

By LIAT COLLINS

Less than a week before the verdict in Shas Party leader Aryeh Deri's corruption trial, Shas spiritual leader Rabbi Ovadia Yosef and his son, David, have received a summons to appear in Jerusalem District Court in May over their comments against the judiciary.

They have been asked to give evidence regarding the complaint filed against them by the Movement for Quality Government for their attacks on the High Court. Shas activists yesterday claimed that this is another form of persecution against Shas leaders, an accusation denied by the movement. The Attorney-General's Office has closed its own file on the case.

Apparently, the summons had been held up by the court workers' strike.

Shas MK Yitzhak Cohen said "there is no way" that Yosef will answer the summons. "We're talking about one of the greatest rabbis of the generation," he said.

"There is perhaps a satanic mind behind this," Cohen said. "The summons did not come on behalf of the State Attorney's Office but from those people who for some reason are upset that there aren't any riots. They tried to create an atmosphere for riots in the demonstration of hundreds of thousands and were disappointed. They tried to create an atmosphere for riots in advance of [Deri's] verdict and are disappointed. They keep going up a notch in the hope that something will happen and there will be civil war. Why does the public not stand up against this?"

He said he did not know who was behind what he described as attempts to inflame the public, but said the police should investigate the phenomena.

Tel Aviv police yesterday said they would investigate Cohen's complaint against Non-Stop Radio broadcaster Natan Zahavi following his comments on air in which he called on listeners to "imagine" him saying, "Who are Ovadia Yosef and this thief Aryeh Deri... the dogs and sons of bitches. They should be killed. Exterminated."

Cohen said these comments were worse than the ones against Meretz leader Yossi Sarid by Yisrael Bopdak, who broadcast on a Shas-affiliated pirate station in Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, Deri yesterday congratulated Labor Party leader Ehud Barak on being cleared in the State Comptroller's Report into the Tze'elim 2 accident. He also criticized Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi for his Knesset plenum speech playing on Barak's name with the phrase "Ehud *barah*" (Ehud fled) accusing the former chief of General Staff of abandoning the injured in the incident.

"If he has an ounce of integrity he should stand up – the sooner the better – and say, 'I made a mistake. I'm sorry.' There's nothing shameful in that. If Tzahi Hanegbi doesn't apologize, then the prime minister as the Likud leader and premier is obliged to make him apologize," Deri said in an Israel Radio interview.

He called on the Likud to drop its reported plans for a campaign to use the "Barak fled" motif, and said Hanegbi's accusation was "the character assassination of a man who gave 30 years of his life to the country."

Deri said he would continue, however, to criticize Barak over other issues.

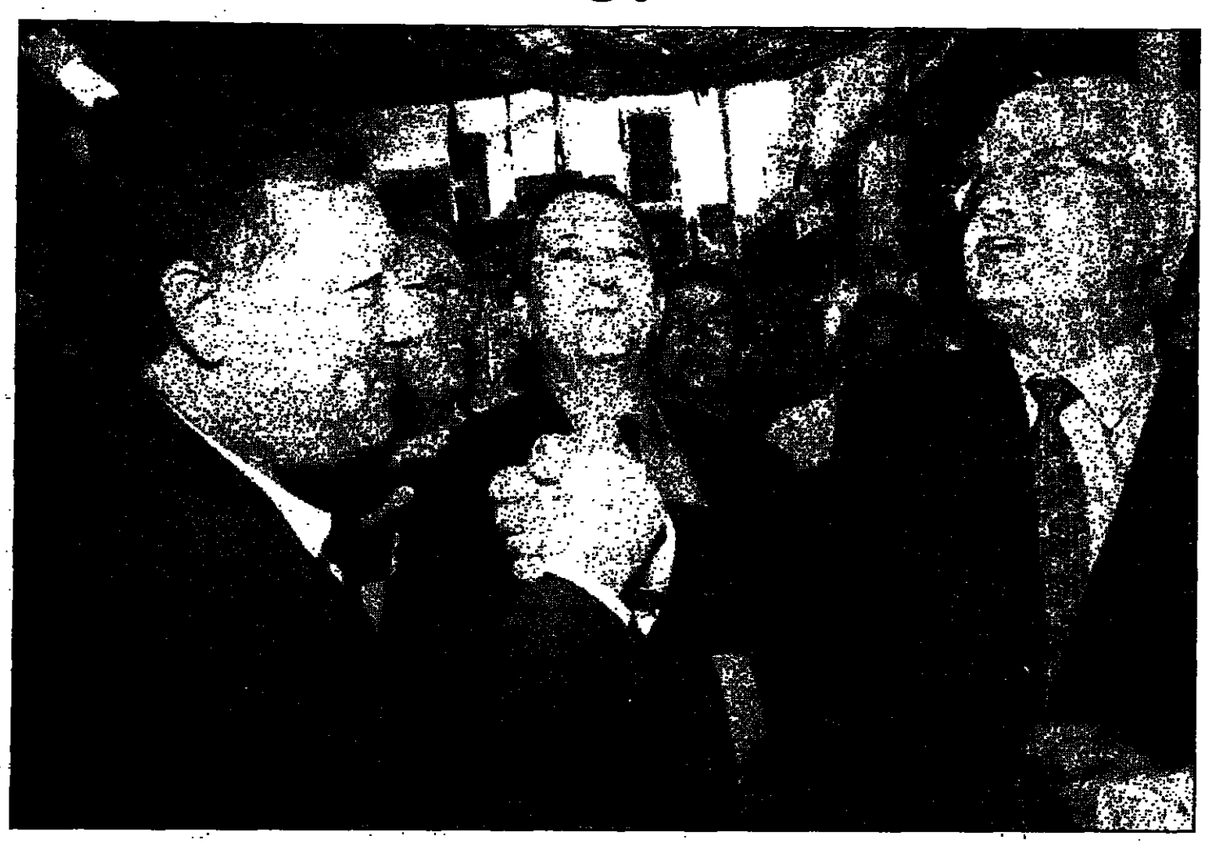
"There are enough things you can attack Barak about. And I'm sure the Likud will find others."

"We have ideological differences," Deri said. "But there are red lines which cannot be crossed: character assassination, libel, personal slurs not related to ideology."

In a thinly veiled reference to his own trial, he warned against believing every newspaper report.

Barak, Levy go a-wooing for One Israel

By DANNA HARMAN



Gesher leader David Levy (right) greets a supporter as he and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak (center) campaign for One Israel in Migdal Ha'emek yesterday. (Yael Somekh/Israel Sun)

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak and his newfound partner, Gesher leader David Levy, hit the road together yesterday, riding into Yokne'am, Migdal Ha'emek, and Afula with a convoy of flag-decked minibuses to spread the word of their One Israel coalition.

The main reaction the duo seemed to elicit in these traditional Likud strongholds was curiosity. There was some real enthusiasm, but "of the imported sort," as one detractor put it, looking at a group of cheering out-of-town activists.

There was also some aversion, but Barak, surrounded by the activists, proudly pointed out it was "pretty weak." And so, as Barak and Levy linked arms and joked about their blossoming "romance," most locals did nothing more than raise an eyebrow or cock an ear.

One or two expressed surprise at the sight of the happy couple, but most consoled themselves with the thought that, as former Likud supporter Mario Ben-Lulu put it, "this is a mad country filled with real political animals in which the notion of strange bedfellows has obviously taken on a whole new meaning."

Yokne'am's popular council head, Simon Alfasi, in contrast, said he sees much more to the One Israel union than political expediency. "This is Barak's way to take his request for forgiveness from the [Sephardim] one step further," said Alfasi during a late morning burekas break at a local community center.

"We all waited for the day in which Barak, who cares so much about social equality, would join forces with Levy, a true champion of social causes. And here, together with Shlomo Ben-Ami, you have a winning, caring team that will be able not only to understand the problems in this country but to conquer them."

What with all the broad smiles and mutual pats on the back, however, Levy was quick to remind those he met along the way that he was not actually joining Labor.

At the Soltam factory in Yokne'am he was approached by metal worker Hanoh Malis. "Welcome back to your political home," said Malis happily, pulling out his Labor Party membership card as a sign of brotherhood. "God forbid," replied Levy shaking his finger and speaking in grave tones," I have not joined the Labor Party, only One Israel."

Not everyone saw the difference. In Migdal Ha'emek, as Levy, Barak, and Mayor Eli Barda held court in the town hall, a group of malcontents sat at a shady cafe nearby sipping bitter black coffee and explaining the logic of their political world.

"Levy grew up in the Likud, and while we could follow him out of the Likud we can only go so far. And Labor is far too far," said Shlomo Lizmi, a former Levy supporter.

Another Levy disapointee, Ze'ev Malha, took a deep drag on his cigarette and added that, "when your father teaches you that one plus one equals two, no one is going to convince you that it equals three. We are for the Likud, and what Levy is trying to hoodwink us, and confuse all logic, tell us that one plus one is three. But we are not idiots."

"Are you men here from the bride's side, or the groom's?" asked Likud activist Meir Peretz, sauntering up to the cafe group.

"Neither," replied Lizmi and Malha in unison. "We just came to see how exactly these fools are going to try and talk their way out of this betrayal."

Barak was unperturbed by the remarks coming from the sidelines. "I have a secret for you all," he told reporters sarcastically. "There will be some people in Migdal Ha'emek who will vote for [Prime Minister] Binyamin Netanyahu... But that is not the point. The point is that there is a different feeling brewing in the country.

"When I travelled here with [former prime minister Yitzhak] Rabin several years ago, we felt like we really had no one to talk to. But now it is different. The Likud supporters have lost their passion, their pride. It is almost as if they are saying: 'come, change my mind.'"

Labor MK Rafi Elul, who joined yesterday's tour, further explained the strategic thinking behind the joint tour: "This election is a game of a percent or two," he said.

"That is all we need to get to create our revolution. It will be very significant in the first round and crucial in the second. That is what we are out for. And some people, if only a few, are really going to be affected by this new union."

ELECTION

notebook

Right-wing nationalist bloc may be finalized soon

Going into the final stretch toward unity in the right-wing nationalist bloc, settlement leader Aharon Domb shuttled yesterday among the sides in an attempt to end the impasse and pave the way for a deal. Unity talks were suspended early Tuesday morning after the sides became entrenched in their positions. The difficulties were apparently due to disagreement between Moledet leader MK Rehavam Ze'evi and Herut's No. 2 MK Michael Kleiner. Ze'evi is still apparently demanding concessions in exchange for what the party said is his "major concession" in agreeing to let Herut's MK Ze'ev (Benny) Begin have the No. 1 slot on the joint list. The outstanding differences were said to be over the remaining slots on the list. Tekuma leader Uri Ariel said yesterday that he was optimistic and hoped a deal could be closed by the weekend. Moledet's MK Benny Elon also said there were only small details left to iron out. Ze'evi is apparently seeking to make sure Elon gets a high position on the list. *Nina Gilbert and Elli Wohlgelernter*

Shulamit Aloni founds pro-Meretz group

Almost three years after she retired from politics, former Meretz leader Shulamit Aloni is back – at the head of a new group called Citizen Supporters of Meretz.

"I want to build a society based on law and justice. The only party that will fight for this is Meretz," Aloni declared yesterday during a press conference in Tel Aviv to announce the new group, which she will be leading along with author Amos Oz, former Arts and Culture Administration head Yossi Frost and actress Irina Selezniova. She added: "All the sensible people in this county should support Meretz."

Aloni also came out strongly against the haredi attacks on the court system, reading passages from from the Torah and from Rashi that say judges and their decisions must be honored. The group plans to organize parlor meetings and larger events and put out ads supporting Meretz. Aloni, who often had bitter disputes with her successor as party head, MK Yossi Sarid, said that she had not discussed the decision with him. However, the group was formed with Meretz's support and Sarid released a statement yesterday saying he is "very satisfied" that Aloni and Oz are heading the group. "[They] are people of great importance to Meretz and to the Israeli Left in general and their contribution is unique and crucial," he said.

Meretz must concentrate on defeating Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, he added, and not look backward. Oz said yesterday that heading the group is not a step toward entering politics, though Aloni said she would support him were he to head the party.

"If the novelists go into politics, the politicians might start writing novels," he responded. *Heidi J. Gleit*

MORDECHAI

Continued from Page 1

He talked about the need for the creation of a constitution, stressed the importance of free education for children, voiced support for student loans, and promised to strengthen youth movements.

Mordechai said he would help development towns, make new immigrants feel more welcome, create affordable public housing projects, improve environmental quality, support the elderly, and make life easier for the handicapped.

If Mordechai seemed to touch upon almost every worthy cause in his speech, he also welcomed every possible group to the party. First, he – like the other speakers – made sure to mention Moslems, Christians, Druse, and Circassians in his welcome. Then, he evoked religious themes, and, at one point slapped on a kippa and made a blessing.

"After 2,000 years we have built the national home, the Third Commonwealth, and supporters will come from all corners of the world to partake in it," said Mordechai. He said that if he were called upon to create the next government, he would call for national unity with both Likud and Labor. "We will call for broad coalition which will represent all the people of this country," he said.

Shahak, who opened the evening, called it "a historical happening," and said the party is "offering a new future for this country.

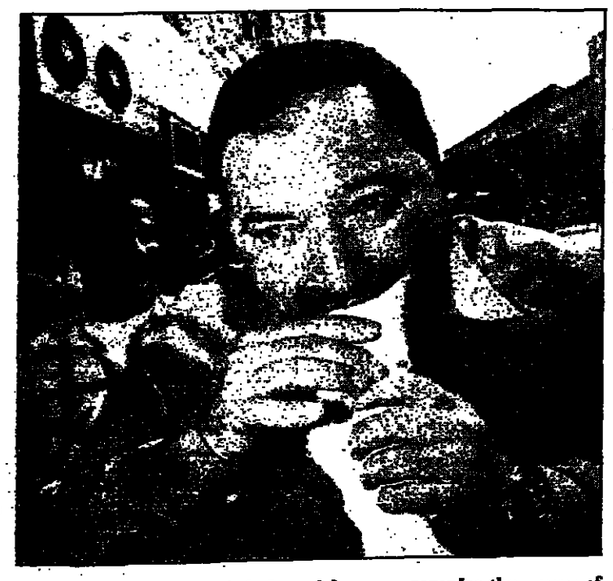
"This is a new way, a newly paved path on which we can march into the next century," said Shahak, who spoke forcefully of the need to elect a responsible and trustworthy leadership.

"We who define ourselves as the center are the only ones who can lead. We are a party made up of a variety of people, and what unites us is our interest in listening to the people, and really representing this country," said Shahak.

Besides Mordechai and Shahak, the other speakers at the event were Meridor. Milo – who lambasted Channel 1 for "bowing to political pressure and failing to broadcast the event live" – Dalia Rabin-Pelosoff and Nehama Ronen.

In addition, four new Center Party recruits – an Ethiopian, a disabled veteran, a woman, and an Arab also got up to voice their support for the party. Along with the speeches and laser shows, the crowd was also treated to a video display featuring Mordechai meeting with world leaders, playing with his infant son Yovel, visiting soldiers in the field and hospitals, and consoling bereaved families.

Lieberman shops for support in Mahaneh Yehuda



Yisrael Beiteinu head Avigdor Lieberman samples the wares of Jerusalem's Mahaneh Yehuda market on the campaign trail yesterday. (Ariel Jerozolimski/The Jerusalem Post)

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Following in the footsteps of his former boss Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Yisrael Beitenu leader Avigdor Lieberman yesterday walked "Likud Lane," otherwise known as the main shopping streets of Jerusalem's Mahaneh Yehuda market, in search of votes, fresh green peas, and the kind of reception enjoyed by Netanyahu on his market visits.

He never found the peas, but Lieberman came away with warm if not overwhelming support from the stall owners, a free felafel and other goodies, and reminders from the vendors that he should make coalition agreements "only with Bibi."

Lieberman's link with Netanyahu was underscored by almost identical posters pasted around the market showing the two striking virtually the same pose: alongside a flag of Israel, Netanyahu looking left, Lieberman to the right.

Shaking hands with passersby, Lieberman worked his way down the covered Rehov Etz Haim street, accompanied by several leading members of the party. Asked if he'd come to steal votes from the Likud and Netanyahu, he said: "I've come to represent my party and I also plan to strengthen the prime minister. I don't hide the fact that we will support Netanyahu for prime minister, and I think that for Netanyahu to be strong, you need a strong Yisrael Beitenu and a strong Yvette." He predicted his party would "not get any less than eight or nine seats."

Lieberman refused to divulge just who would be where on his party's list. "We've said all along that we will only reveal this beginning on March 15 or 16," he said. He insisted that the ethnic background of potential candidates would not influence their position on the list. "Anyone who's good will be on the list," he said.

Asked about the State Comptroller's report on the Tze'elim 2 incident, Lieberman – cleared earlier this week of charges pending against himself – said: "I've only heard what's been on the radio, so it would be irresponsible to respond to what's been leaked so far. But I congratulate anyone who has been found innocent. People have to understand that even politicians are people before they are politicians."

Lieberman said Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi "doesn't need my advice" regarding whether to apologize to Barak or not. "He's a senior minister, and he'll know what to do."

Commenting on the upcoming verdict in the trial of Shas leader Aryeh Deri, Lieberman said: "I hope and pray with all my heart that Aryeh will emerge innocent. I want everyone to remember: Aryeh Deri is the nicest person in Israeli politics," he said.

Walking past posters featuring his picture and the slogan: "His word is his word," Lieberman, without his usual tie and jacket, stressed the "strong Lieberman equals strong Bibi" message during his tour, one that sold almost as well as the spring watermelons being snatched off one counter where he stopped.

"I've been coming here for 20 years, Lieberman, former director-general of Netanyahu's office, said just before biting into a slice of the red stuff.

While many stall owners took time out to shake his hand, or to urge him to "be strong, be strong," most of the shouts of "Lieberman! Lieberman!" came from his own campaign staff as they walked with him. The mass support Netanyahu drew on his visit was lacking.

Indeed, Eliezer, a vegetable dealer at the entrance to the Agrippas side of the shuk, said: "I'm not excited by him. He looks like a hooligan to me. He says what others are forbidden to say. But I'm disappointed with all of them." A baker on Rehov Mahaneh Yehuda said Lieberman "is out in my eyes. Anyone who talks that way about the political system and the police shouldn't be allowed to lead a party."

ON THE RECORD

I was happy for Ehud [Barak], I was happy for the IDF, and I was happy that these things have come to light – President **Ezer Weizman** on the Tze'elim 2 report, in reference to the Labor Party leader

I have not joined the Labor Party, only One Israel – Gesher leader **David Levy**, during a tour of Migdal Ha'emek with Barak yesterday

Aryeh Deri is the nicest person in Israeli politics – Yisrael Beitenu leader **Avigdor Lieberman**

Barak cannot understand Israeli society the way I can, and cannot unite the people – Center Party leader **Yitzhak Mordechai**

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Sharansky, Uzbekistan FM to boost ties through joint US appearances

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON – In a highly unusual move, ministers of Israel and Uzbekistan are to hold joint appearances when they come to Washington next week.

The visit of Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky and Uzbek Foreign Minister Abdulaziz Kamilov is believed to be the first of its kind since prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and Jordan's King Hussein came here in July 1994 to sign the Washington Declaration and address both houses of Congress. Arab and Israeli leaders have since come here for summits and to sign agreements, but have not embarked on a joint advocacy campaign.

The ministers will hold discussions next Monday and Tuesday with House International Relations Committee chairman Benjamin Gilman, Senate Near Eastern and South Asian Subcommittee chairman Sam Brownback and Senate International Economic Policy Subcommittee chairman Chuck Hagel. They were still trying to finalize meetings with National Security Advisor Sandy Berger and Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Martin Indyk, among other administration officials.

Sharansky and Kamilov will also address representatives of several Jewish organizations. They were hoping to brief the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, but the think tank decided against it and will hear from only Sharansky.

The joint appearances are an outgrowth of President Islam Karimov's visit to Israel last autumn. During a meeting with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Karimov sought Israel's help in strengthening ties with Washington, and Netanyahu agreed on the spot, appointing Sharansky, who also participated in the session, to facilitate the approach.

Next week's events "contribute to our relations with Uzbekistan," Shmuel Merom, director of the Foreign Ministry's Department of the Commonwealth of Independent States, said yesterday.

"If we help others, it helps us. What they want is to open doors in the US... and assist on [improving] their image," he added.

Israeli officials believe that one motivation for Uzbekistan's request is its desire to counteract US criticism of its alleged human rights violations.

Israel has in the past advocated to the US on behalf of others in the region. Notable countries include Jordan, Egypt, and Azerbaijan, as well as helping the Palestinians. Asked whether next week's events might encourage other countries to capitalize on Israel's close ties with the US, Merom said: "They'll see Israel as a springboard to the US whether we want it or not."

Israeli and Uzbek officials describe the joint meetings as an effort to boost their relationship, and draw American involvement in combating drug trafficking, Islamic fundamentalism, and the spread of missiles and other weapons throughout Central Asia and Iran.

Uzbekistan sees "a real threat" emanating from Islamic fundamentalists in Afghanistan and Tajikistan, "and there's been a perception by some in the Uzbekistan government that Israel could help them directly, with advice and with bringing this concern to the West," said the Washington Institute's Patrick Clawson, an expert on the region.

"I can smell collaboration on this pretty fast. It complements the US's interest and involvement," he added.

Israel and Uzbekistan already cooperate on some issues of mutual concern. Israel has hosted courses for Uzbek officials seeking to fight the spread of drugs from Afghanistan and Tajikistan, and plans to send its own experts to Uzbekistan soon, Merom said.

Anti-terrorism cooperation is "still on paper," but the two sides intend to work together there, he said. Israel's Mashav program has already helped establish modern dairies in Uzbekistan, and the two countries already conduct joint medical training and exchange programs.

While Uzbekistan and the US do not work together on security matters, Sharansky and other Israeli officials can help change that, and "open the door for discussions," said Yusup Magdiev, a first secretary of the Uzbek Embassy here. And while Uzbekistan is fighting drug trafficking with both Israeli and American assistance, the three countries are not involved in a coordinated effort, something that Magdiev believes can be rectified.

Tashkent already cooperates with Washington to prevent weapons proliferation, and is very concerned over Iran's nuclear program, because "if it is successful, it will be our problem" as well as Israel's, Mogdiev said. "We don't want to have an Iranian Chernobyl in the region," he said.

"It's a start," he said of the new effort. "It's a new step, a new page, in our relations."

Turkish MP: Our ties not based on hostility to others

By LIAT COLLINS

The growing friendship between Israel and Turkey is not aimed against any other country, said both Hikmet Cetin, Speaker of the Turkish Parliament, and his Israeli counterpart Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon when the two met in the Knesset yesterday. Cetin, a former foreign minister, is here on an official visit.

Both stressed that the friendship between the two countries is not meant as a threat to other countries including Greece or the Arab countries, which Cetin described as "our friends and bothers."



Hikmet Cetin (Isaac Harari)

Cetin's visit, his third, is seen as another sign of the improving relations between Israel and Turkey and the two countries have signed on several agreements in recent years including in the military fields.

Cetin noted that Israel and Turkey use the same types of western and US weapons and technology. He deflected a question on whether the intelligence services of the two countries are cooperating. "This is not my job or area," he said, "But you need not exaggerate this."

Tichon said that the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committees of the two parliaments are expected to hold exchange visits in the future.

"It is important to emphasize that the good relations which are developing are not aimed at any third country and there is a third country which is very worried by the relations," said Tichon. He noted he had just returned from an inter-parliamentary conference in Majorca where he spoke to his Greek counterpart and had clarified Israel's stand.

The issue assumed added impetus after Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan was captured by Turkish forces during a mission in Kenya where Ocalan had sought refuge with the Greek Embassy.

Cetin said that Ocalan would receive a fair trial and that Turkey is democratic.

Regarding the possibility raised in the Turkish and foreign press that Israel has been in touch with the PKK Kurdish rebel movement, Cetin said he does not believe Israel would hold talks with the movement because Israel knows what terrorism is.

"For that reason we do not believe that any government or circle in Israel will try to have any kind of contact with PKK terrorism which was responsible for more than 30,000 deaths in our country," he said.

Moslem Miss Israel says she feels completely Israeli

By HEIDI J. GLEIT

Miss Israel, Rana Raslan, considers herself "completely Israeli," even though she is Moslem and not Jewish.

"We all want peace. We're all one nation and there's no difference between Arabs and Jews," she said yesterday at her first press conference since winning the beauty contest on Tuesday evening.

She refused to discuss politics, saying, "There are people who understand politics better than me. I'm a beauty queen, not a political queen."



Rana Raslan (Mati Milstein/Israel Sun)

She also refused to say more than a few sentences in English, "because the people of Israel want to hear how I speak in Hebrew, not English," she said in fluent Hebrew.

Raslan and Miriam Ofer-Mozes, editor of the magazine which sponsors the contest, both emphasized that her victory was not a political decision.

"Listen, I'm Israeli and everyone accepts that. The judges picked me because they thought I was the most beautiful," said Raslan, who won a beauty contest in the Arab sector three years ago.

"I have been asked if this was a political decision... This contest is about beauty, about personality, about a big heart, it has nothing to do with politics," Mozes said, adding that since the first contest some 49 years ago, Arab-Israeli women have been welcome to compete in it.

However, Pnina Rosenblum, who was one of the judges, said she voted for Raslan to send a message to the Arab world.

"It is the first time in Israeli history that an Israeli Arab has been chosen as beauty queen," Rosenblum said. "The message is that we... want a true peace."

Though Raslan, 21, of Haifa, was nervous during the press conference and burst into tears at one point, she said that she was quite comfortable modeling a bathing suit during the contest.

Raslan studied at Carmel High School and has been working as a make-up artist since.

She intends to dedicate this year to her role as Miss Israel and assisting Variety, the organization for handicapped children.

"I want to thank all the judges who chose me and I hope not to disappoint them," she said.

Raslan succeeded Linor Abergil, who drew the media's attention both by becoming Miss World and then by announcing that she had been raped last year, encouraging other rape victims to come forward and press charges.

Reuters contributed to this report.



From left: ARZA president Philip Meltzer, Israel Religious Action Center director Rabbi Uri Regev, and ARZA chairman Jerry Tanenbaum present Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon yesterday with thousands of postcards from American Jews protesting Knesset involvement in the who-is-a Jew question. (Ariel Jerozolimski/ The Jerusalem Post)

US Reform Jews bring a postbag of grievances to Knesset

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Representatives of the American Reform movement took their case for religious pluralism to the Knesset yesterday when they presented Speaker Dan Tichon with some of the 4,500 postcards mailed in by members protesting their exclusion, or marginalization, from Israeli life.

"We're bringing them to you, as speaker of the Knesset, because I would like you to hear and be concerned with the feelings of American Jews," said Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, executive director of the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA).

The printed postcards, half of them in blue addressed to Tichon and the rest in orange addressed to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, read: "As a proud Jew and supporter of Israel, I am outraged by recent attempts to redefine in the Knesset who is a Jew. The state of Israel must not deny the legitimacy of millions of the world's Jews. Such legislation would recklessly and irrevocably damage the ties that bind us together.

"The nations of the world have treated Jews as strangers for centuries. Do not allow the State of Israel, spiritual and physical homeland for *all* Jews, to pass laws that treat Jews as outsiders." Some of them had additional comments from the senders, including one declaring herself a Holocaust survivor; another saying: "You are willing to take reform Jews' money," from Baltimore, Md.; and a third: "Recognition that we are all Jews more than 50 years since the founding of the State of Israel is long overdue," from Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

"This shows that American Jews are concerned with their rights in the Jewish state," said Philip Meltzer, president of ARZA, "concerned with their relationship with the State of Israel. What we can't afford to let happen is to allow religious fundamentalists cause a rupture in the relationship between Israel and Diaspora Jewry, and that can happen if the forces of fundamentalism overcome those who believe in a pluralistic democratic Israeli society." Tichon said the Knesset is not the place for religious questions to be decided.

"It's not our problem, it's a political body, the Knesset," the speaker said. "We should understand the role of the Knesset – it's not the [chief] rabbinate.

Matza, gov't doctors repudiate 'Bangladesh' overcrowding charges

By JUDY SIEGEL

The directors of all public hospitals last night issued a statement via the Health Ministry spokesman after Health Minister Yehoshua Matza convened them in anger over a senior physician's remark that the country's internal medicine departments "look like a refugee camp in Bangladesh."

Prof. Moshe Garti – chairman of the Israel Internal Medicine Society and head of the Recanati Center for Internal Medicine at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus – made this simile in an article published in *Ma'ariv* yesterday.

Garti, who spoke on Tuesday before an emergency meeting of internal medical specialists at Kfar Hamaccabiah, was quoted by *Ma'ariv* as saying that the overflowing wards of elderly, seriously ill patients look like a refugee camp, because beds are near the toilets and in cafeterias, wards are severely understaffed, and patients have been deprived of their privacy.

He said that, because beds are so close to each other, patients are likelier to become infected and the mortality rate increases.

But ministry officials said there are no statistics to show an increase in internal-medicine department mortality and claimed that Garti had exaggerated. Garti said last night that using the word "Bangladesh" may not have been suitable.

Last Thursday, Garti sent a letter to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Matza – to which, Garti said, neither had responded by yesterday – in the names of the heads of all 93 internal medicine departments in the country.

The letter warned that, because an agreement signed two years ago by the Finance and Health ministries to add 1,200 beds to internal medicine departments "has not been funded or implemented, patients' lives are endangered. The problem isn't the winter, but the collapse and insufficiency of the system."

Prof. Moshe Revah, director of Haifa's Rambam Hospital, Prof. Ya'acov Hart, director of Hasharon Hospital in Petah Tikva, Prof. Jonathan Halevy, director of Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, and three other hospital directors immediately composed a statement repudiating Garti's remarks.

"It was brought to our attention that a serious expression was sounded in the media comparing the Israeli health system to that of Bangladesh's and referring to a significant increase in mortality rates due to hospital crowding. The hospital directors reject this comparison, which has no place or justification," the statement said.

"We know that in recent years, efforts to reduce this crowding have been made by the Health Ministry headed by Minister Yehoshua Matza. But due to stubborn refusal by the Treasury, many of these demands have not been met and others have not been implemented. We thank the health minister for his efforts so far and appeal to him to make every effort to present to the government even in this sensitive period the difficulties in the system and to continue to make every needed effort to reduce the distress in the hospitals."

Hart admitted that in their two-hour meeting with Matza, the minister "did not make any proposals to relieve the congestion in the internal medicine departments," but said Matza was "very upset by the headlines quoting Prof. Garti."

He denied, however, that Matza – whose ministry controls and supervises hospital allocations, functioning, and development – asked the hospital directors to write a press statement.

By comparison, the Israel Medical Association – a professional organization not dependent on the ministry – issued a very different press release of their own yesterday.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar wrote that "It's true that the situation is extremely serious."

However, Blachar continued, "We examined the matter and found that allocations have not been fully expressed in internal medicine departments, and that some of the money was used for other purposes by hospital directors according to their own considerations."

The IMA did not criticize Garti or refer to the *Ma'ariv* article.

On Israel Radio yesterday morning, Matza criticized "the internal medicine department heads, accusing them of "extraneous" considerations related to the upcoming elections. He maintained that the Netanyahu government had "added more to the health budget" than had been done in years.

Two months ago, Matza accused Kaplan Hospital – owned by Kupat Holim Clalit – of "vastly exaggerating" its own internal medicine occupancy rates for "political reasons," because Clalit was formerly owned by the Labor Party-affiliated Histadrut.

The overcrowding caused by the growth in population by one million people since then could be blamed, in part, for this increased mortality rate, Garti also said.

The Jerusalem Post learned that Garti was suspected by the Health Ministry of speaking in his own name in his letter to Netanyahu and Matza. He has been asked by a senior official to fax it with the signatures of the 93 department heads to prove they had actually signed it.

ANALYSIS

Continued from Page 1

This is why after a few days of high jinks in which Itzik, Haim Ramon, Avraham Burg, and other assorted outspoken Laborites would be allowed to have a go at the Likud, the matter would be allowed to die with a whimper. Party chairman Ehud Barak simply has nothing to gain and everything to risk from keeping it uppermost in the electorate's mind.

From the day of the mishap in Tze'elim, Barak – justly or not – could only lose from the association, which for a long time he tried to deny and whitewash (and which to a great extent contributed to the mushrooming of rumors and accusations). All that a good State Comptroller's Report could do for Barak – from his vantage point – is cut his losses. He cannot emerge from the episode as a winner. Therefore, Barak will seek to abandon the subject in a hurry, being acutely aware that the public's memory is selective in the extreme.

The subject was almost dead and forgotten, which suited him fine.

The State Comptroller's Report revived it again. Barak must now be wondering what will stick in the public's mind. Will it be that the report cleared him, that he was the victim here, or that he was associated with something highly unpleasant? Will people remember the vindication or the alleged original sin?

There are no clear incontrovertible answers, as many acquitted defendants can attest. If Labor persists in using this to whip the Likud, it could be injured by the backlash. The Likud could point out that the facts are not in dispute, only how they are evaluated. He might be legally clean, but soiled from a humane and moral point of view. And all this still leaves open the issue of the coverup, to say nothing of the fact that five young men lost their lives and others were maimed, making this no cause for gloating.

Like Barak, the Likud, too, has every reason to bury the matter. Tze'elim 2 won't loom large in Likud electioneering and there was never any plan to make it a central issue. It can't do the Likud any good now and it couldn't before the latest report either. This is one of those issues which are grasped by the general public as dirty and the filth rubs off not only on those attacked but also on those doing the attacking. Often the latter fare worse than their targets. This has nothing to do with the actual truth. This is more a question of human perceptions than of historical justice.

Realizing that the Likud is discomfited, the more hotheaded Laborites (who do not always have Barak's best interests in mind) might try to make the Likud the villain of the piece and to provoke it into reacting. They could seek to make political capital from the assertion that the entire sordid affair was a Likud-inspired calumny.

In actual fact, the phrase "Ehud barah" (Ehud fled) was coined by Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, who also likened Barak's behavior to that of one who doesn't stop at the site of a road accident to check on the injured, even if he has no medical background. Sarid also harshly took Barak to task for thinking of his own prestige first and getting out of the scene of carnage as quickly as he could.

Labor will no doubt seek to downplay the Meretz connection and home in on the Likud. If Likud hotheads play into the hands of their Labor counterparts, all sides would lose heftily. In such an eventuality, the public might recall that the Likud didn't inspire the story, and the mud would be splattered indiscriminately on all the wrestlers.

BARAK

Continued from Page 1

Hanegbi has refused to comment publicly on the matter, but both Channel 1 and Channel 2 claimed he had privately said he "wouldn't even dream of" apologizing. Hanegbi reportedly noted accusations Labor had made against Netanyahu, including the suggestion by MK Dalia Itzik that he was a CIA agent.

Barak, on a joint campaign tour with Gesher leader David Levy in the North, said he was not surprised by the report's findings. "I knew the truth all along, that there was no basis for the accusations," he said. "Of course I feel relief, but the price I have paid, and the way in which the whole affair has been played out, have hurt me," he said. "No report can fully remedy that."

Barak said he has no intention of using his exoneration as part of his political campaign.

"The main lesson here is that these sorts of tragedies should not be used for political reasons," he said. "I am looking forward now, and not back." He also called again for the report to be made public as soon as possible.

Asked if he would demand an apology from Hanegbi, Barak said: "That man does not interest me.... and I have no intention of asking him for anything."

Levy said yesterday that the state comptroller's findings were "good news for everybody," adding that "the stain which had wrongly been put on Barak has now been erased... and this is a relief for us all."

Netanyahu, also campaigning yesterday, said he had not yet had a chance to read the still-classified report and does not feel it would be proper to respond to it before it is published.

The report will only be released next week on the return from the US of MK Uzi Landau, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Landau is one of the three-member subcommittee that must decide what parts of the classified reports can be published from a security viewpoint. The other two members are Knesset State Control Committee chairman Yossi Katz and MK Ephraim Sneh (both Labor).

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon yesterday called for the report to be released immediately without waiting for Landau's return. Tichon criticized Sneh, who told journalists Tuesday the report completely exonerates Barak, instead of waiting for it to be publicly released.

Tichon said the report is not entirely favorable. "There was a problem at the [accident] site and it remains unsolved," he told reporters at the Knesset yesterday.

Responding to calls by opposition MKs that Hanegbi apologize, Tichon said people should wait and read the report before making statements.

"I am well versed in the affair and there are things in this report which deserve further consideration," he said. "There are no winners or losers in this matter."

Likud MK Naomi Blumenthal was less reticent, telling Army Radio yesterday the accident "was not the only disaster during [Barak's] time," as chief of General Staff, and that "he should have accepted responsibility."

Drive Carefully

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Poll: Families spending less on food

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

The average Israeli family is spending less on food this year than last year, and is doing more of its food shopping in the large inexpensive supermarket chains, according to a survey for the Manufacturers Association food section.

Food Section chairman Rami Shalev said yesterday the survey was conducted in January among 600 representative Jewish households by the Geocartographia Institute, directed by Prof. Avi Degani and Dr. Rina Degani.

An Israeli family now spends an average of NIS 1,647 on food per month. Families of five or more spend an average of NIS 2,023, while families of three or four spend an average of NIS 1,691, Shalev said.

While monthly food expenditure has remained the same as last year in nominal terms, in real terms this sum does not take into account the approximate 8 percent annual inflation rate, the survey conductors explained.

The survey shows that the large discount supermarket chains have strengthened their grip on the market and now account for some 35% of all food sold. The haredi food chains have also increased their share of the market and account for 5.3% of all food sold.

Neighborhood grocery stores and mini markets are losing their grip on the market, the survey finds. They now account for 20.3% of food sold in the Jewish sector, compared to 22% in the equivalent period last year. The open markets account for 6.9% of all food sold, compared to 8.6% in December 1997.

The chains account for 12% of all food sold, a decrease of 5% compared to December 1997. The large hypermarkets account for 10.4% of sales, 2% less than the same period in the previous year. But the cheaper food store chains increased their share of sales from 28% in December 1997 to 35% in December 1998.

Haredi supermarkets have increased their sales share from 3.2% in December 1997 to 5.3% in December 1998.

Food wholesale outlets have grown during the past year from half a percent of sales in December 97 to 1.2% in December 1998; 3.9% of the food was bought elsewhere.

Shalev said 95.8% prefer buying Israeli-made dairy products and cheeses, 93.6% Israeli-made frozen vegetables, 93.2% Israeli-made cold drinks, 91.3% Israeli-made manufactured processed meat products, 89.1% Israeli-made soy oil and olive oil, some 89% Israeli-made snacks, 88% Israeli-made soups, 86% Israeli-made cookies and biscuits, 66.4% Israeli-made pasta, some 62% domestic beer and some 55% domestic alcoholic beverages.

The survey shows consumers are relatively loyal and 61% to 81% continue buying products made by same company as before. Consumer loyalty runs especially high regarding tea and coffee, 81% of whose buyers purchased the same product repeatedly, and baby food, where 80% bought the same product repeatedly.

According to the survey, 76% of consumers buy frozen vegetables they had bought before, 78% continued buying the same oil, 71% the same beer, 75% the same pasta, 74% the same non-alcoholic drinks, and 74% the same dairy products.

In another development, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said yesterday he intends to increase the penalty on shopkeepers and supermarket managers who fail to mark prices on products or use misleading advertising to mislead consumers.

A survey held by the ministry indicates the public perceives the absence of marked prices, or the partial marking of prices, as an attempt to deceive and defraud.

Sharansky said 97% of consumers want to see prices marked on every product and consider the law requiring it important.

NEWS *in brief*

Tourism up 18% in February

The Tourism Ministry reported yesterday that 153,700 tourists visited Israel in February, an 18 percent increase from the same month last year. There was a 20 percent increase in the number of tourists arriving by flight, especially on direct services to Eilat, the ministry added. Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav attributed the increase to a comprehensive ministry campaign to encourage tourism to Israel in the lead-up to the year 2000. *Itim*

Buses ordered to use low-pollution fuel

Public transport in areas with a high population density will soon be obliged to use low-sulfur (0.05%) diesel oil. This was decided in an agreement reached this week by Environment Ministry Director General Roni Komar and his counterpart in the National Infrastructure Ministry, Ya'acov Katz.

The move is aimed at reducing air pollution in view of the Environment Ministry's figures on increased air pollution in the cities, much of it a result of vehicular exhausts. Komar said it could bring about a drop of some 30 percent in the air pollution caused by particles. The two director generals agreed to increase cooperation between the two ministries on issues relating to air pollution. *Liat Collins*

Suspected casino purse-snatcher detained

Security staff at the Oasis Casino in Jericho yesterday detained a 33-year-old Jerusalem man on suspicion he snatched a woman's purse, containing $300, while she gambled.

The theft allegedly took place last week, and was recorded by the casino's security cameras. The man, recognized when he returned to the casino yesterday, was detained and transferred to the Vered Yeriho police station for questioning. Police reported the man confessed to the crime. *Itim*

For sale: Scud missile fragment

Iraqi Scud missiles conjure up memories of fear and war, but a charity organization hopes American Jews will pay top dollar for the right to keep a missile fragment in their homes.

The starting price for the metal fragment from an Iraqi Scud that exploded in Tel Aviv during the 1991 Gulf War is $1,500.

The American Association for the Israeli Soldier will sell the shrapnel, along with other memorabilia such as a disability certificate belonging to the late defense minister Moshe Dayan at a March 17 fund-raiser at New York's Waldorf Astoria hotel. About 1,000 American Jews will be among the bidders at the charity dinner.

"We have creative people in our fund-raising department," spokeswoman Nurit Dabush said about the decision to auction off the fist-sized fragment obtained from the IDF. *AP*

Number of Russian immigrants doubles last month

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Continuing the trend established over the past two months, immigration from Russia skyrocketed again last month, increasing 107% over February 1998, Jewish Agency officials announced yesterday.

During the first two months of 1999, 3,347 immigrants arrived here, an increase of 100% over last year. The immigrants come from all over Russia, especially Siberia and the country's far eastern region.

In Novosibirsk, where a synagogue was desecrated earlier this week, emigration to Israel is up some 200%.

One of the newcomers came from a little-known village called Tinda, on the border with China.

"The emissary had never heard of a place called Tinda. He trekked out there and found a Jewish community in which the mayor is Jewish and the two deputy mayors are Jewish. The non-Jews who live there call the town hall 'the Synagogue' because of this," an agency spokesman said yesterday.

"They discovered there really are Jews in the town who want to come here," the spokesman added.

The interest is not limited to Russia.

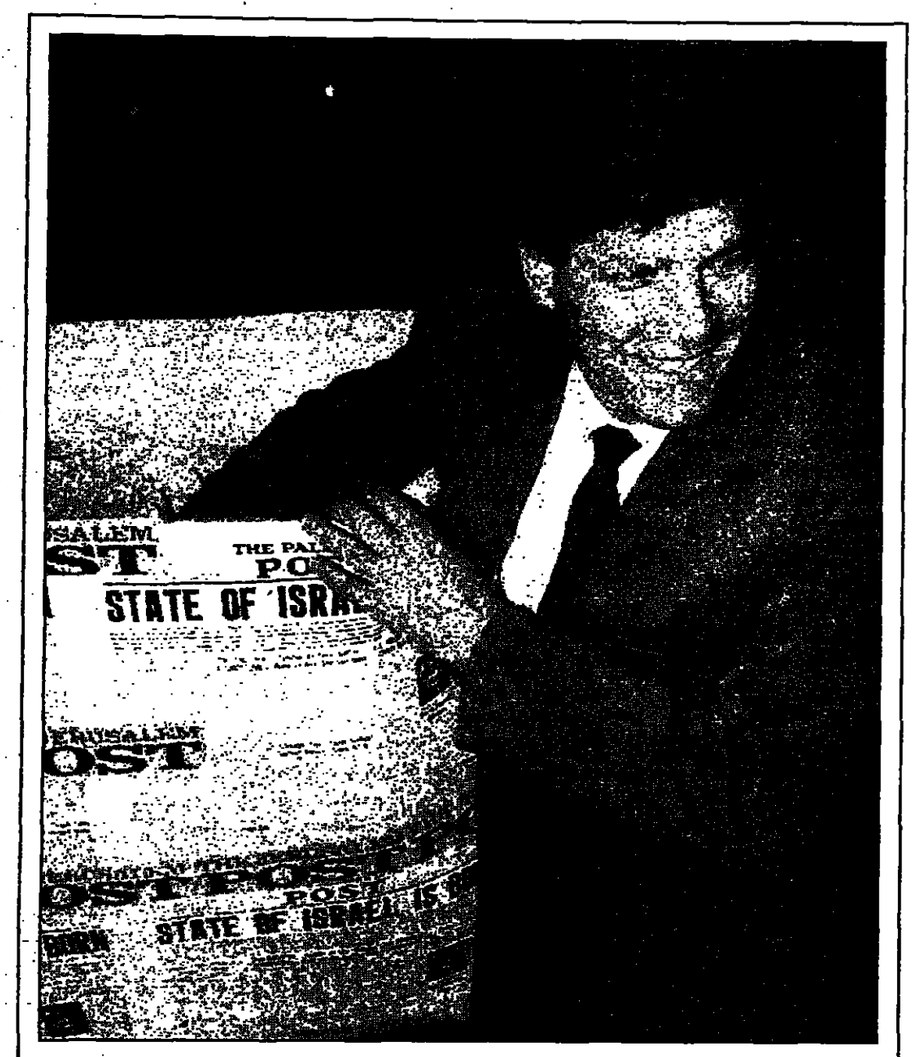
Golda, a 100-year-old woman from Tashkent, in Uzbekistan, whose last name was not available, has an extended family of 200.

She has decided she wants to hold this Pessah's seder in Israel, and is planning on immigrating with all her offspring, according to agency officials.

In various places in the former Soviet Union, Jews have been lining up in the snow for visa applications.

The number of newcomers from Moscow and surrounding area is up 84%, in northern Russia 94%, and in southern Russia 135%. Agency officials expect the rate of immigration to increase in the coming months.

The agency has increased its staff in Russia, expanded Hebrew-language courses whose students have doubled of late, and taken other steps to meet the increasing aliya demand.



Northern exposure

Canadian Ambassador David Berger draws the name of Margaret Lachower of Ramat Hasharon, the lucky winner of 'The Jerusalem Post''s Alaska Adventure contest. The drawing was held Tuesday at the 'Post' editorial offices in the presence of Arthur Goldberg, joint managing director of Greentours Travel Agency. Lachower's prize in the contest – sponsored by Lotus Tours of New York, Ophir Tours, and Greentours Travel Agency – is a two-week Alaskan cruise for two out of Vancouver, including two round-trip Tel Aviv-Vancouver air tickets. (Ariel Jerozolimski/Jerusalem Post)

Girl healing from dog attack

By LIAT COLLINS

Hodaya Amsalem, the six-year-old girl who was attacked by a dog in Jerusalem's Gilo neighborhood on Monday, is recovering smoothly and is expected to be released from the hospital tomorrow, Itim reported yesterday.

Amsalem was taken to Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital with severe face and hand injuries after she was unexpectedly bitten and scratched by a Mastino Napolitani running loose at the entrance of her building.

MK Amnon Rubinstein, chairman of the Knesset Economics Committee, is calling for the government to allow a special meeting of the Knesset in the recess to discuss a dangerous dogs bill.

The bill was drawn up by the government and MK Avi Yehezkel. It would require the owners of certain breeds considered dangerous to hold a special license and would ban the dogs' import except under certain circumstances. The bill passed its first reading in June but cannot progress to its final readings without the government's permission during the recess.

The bill would for the first time provide national legislation on dog ownership instead of relegating such rules to local bylaws.

The committee's meetings were marked by serious disagreement on whether certain breeds could be considered dangerous.

Representatives of the Rottweilers' Kennel Club said all their members' pedigreed dogs are entitled to free training. Owners of rescue dogs said their dogs also include rottweilers, which had worked on the rescue mission at the US Embassy in Kenya in August. The breeders and kennel club members also called for licensing of breeders and dog trainers.

"They said the dog is not to blame but the owners," said Rubinstein. "Either they keep them unmuzzled and off the leash or they illegally train them to attack. In any case, as with any other dangerous weapon – and some dogs can be compared to dangerous weapons – people must abide by the law."

Similar legislation exists in several European countries. The Agriculture and Environment ministries are drawing up a list of the breeds considered dangerous, which includes rottweilers and pit bull terriers but not mastiffs and Mastinos.

Slave labor suit under way as WJC satisfies Israeli survivors

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK – The burgeoning lawsuits and compensation plans for Holocaust slave labor survivors took conflicting turns this week as the first case began hearings in the US, and the World Jewish Congress began to repair its relations with Israeli survivors aggrieved by its negotiation tactics.

The Ford Motor Company, which is being sued by survivors of wartime slave labor at its plant in Cologne, Germany, argued Monday in a federal court in Newark, New Jersey that it was incumbent upon the German government, not industry, to pay compensation.

That ran counter to the position both of the survivors suing the company and of the German government.

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer last week in New York told the Jewish Community Relations Council there would be no public money for slave labor claims.

Bonn, however, is overseeing the creation of an industry-financed "humanitarian fund" for such claims, which is set to begin September 1, the 60th anniversary of the invasion of Poland. The amount of industry contributions to the fund is not yet known.

The fund is intended to protect German banks and industry from a series of class action lawsuits that have been filed in US federal courts.

In the last week, the WJC and the survivors' lawyers have been in Germany to negotiate with the government over the fund.

The WJC is only now repairing its acrimonious dealings with Israeli survivors, who had resisted approving the $1.25 billion settlement with the Swiss banks Credit Suisse and UBS, which is being supervised by US District Judge Edward Korman in Brooklyn.

Moshe Sanbar, chairman of the Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel, said the settlement was flawed because it released the Swiss National Bank from all claims.

The effect was that when the World Jewish Restitution Organization, which is led by the WJC, signed the Swiss settlement in January, it was unable to satisfy the banks that the settlement had widespread Jewish approval because the Israelis, the largest group of survivors in the world, were noticeably missing, one of the lawyers said.

WJC secretary-general Israel Singer got Sanbar to agree to the settlement by promising in a letter to include the Israeli survivors in virtually every subsequent compensation negotiation.

In another development, 58 Ukrainians have sued in a Nuremberg labor court for compensation for wartime slave labor at the Diehl armaments plant during World War II, citing as precedent an arrangement Diehl reached last May to compensate a number of Jewish women in their slave labor suit.

US financier Herman Merkin buried

Herman Merkin of Manhattan and Jerusalem, a prominent financier and philanthropist, was buried yesterday in Jerusalem.

Born in Leipzig, Germany, in 1907, Merkin arrived with his family in New York in 1940. He served in the US Army, then entered his family's fur business.

Nearly 40 years ago, he and his father, Leib, formed Merkin & Co., an investment banking concern.

He was a member of the American and New York Stock Exchanges, and a director of the Israel Discount Bank in New York. Merkin served as a trustee of Bar-Ilan University and Yeshiva University in New York, where he endowed a chair in Talmud and Jewish philosophy at YU's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. The position was held by Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik until his death in 1993.

He endowed the Merkin Concert Hall in Manhattan and was founding president of the Fifth Avenue Synagogue, where he served as president for more than 20 years.

Merkin was a supporter of Israel Bonds, UJA, Friends of the IDF, and institutes of higher learning, including the Open University of Israel.

He is survived by his wife, Ulla, six children – including daughter Daphne Merkin, the novelist and *New Yorker* literary critic – and a sister. *Jerusalem Post Staff*



Furry friends

These Furby interactive dolls – over 3 million of which were sold in the US last Christmas – will be available in toy stores here next week. Each Furby has an infrared sensor and 800-word vocabulary which allow it to 'converse' with its owner with one-liners in English. The dolls are available in a variety of fur and eye colors and are intended for children over the age of six. Expected price: NIS 220.

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Which region?

A small island, smack in the center of the Mediterranean, is a good place to talk about the idea of a Mediterranean consciousness. It's a relatively new, somewhat trendy idea that has much to recommend it.

The Region



Barry Rubin

Malta looks like a cross between southern Italy and Jerusalem, with a strong dash of England. The language sounds like Arabic spoken by Italians and written in the Roman alphabet by people who are close to being lineal descendants of the Crusaders. People have names which seem wholly Italian, Arabic or British. It is only 100 kilometers from Sicily and only slightly farther from "Africa," a euphemism in this case to avoid reminding the tourists that Muammar Gaddafi's Libya is just over the horizon.

Not surprisingly, Maltese culture is typified by the answer to my question about which items on the buffet were local specialties. "You take a bit of everything," I was told.

It's a charming place where people make their living from small-scale farming, tourism, textiles and – more colorfully – from money laundering and transshipping goods to circumvent the embargo on Libya.

Like the Maltese menu, the idea of a Mediterranean region as an important focus for international affairs takes a bit from everywhere. For southern European countries – especially Spain and Italy but sometimes also France – it represents a chance to make themselves more important.

Originally, the concept was also a way for Europeans to do something which made them able to exclude the United States. But here, as elsewhere, American involvement has filtered in also.

For Arab states along the coast – especially Morocco, Tunisia, and Egypt (though Jordan has also managed to be accepted for participation) – a Mediterranean identity offers an alternative way to build relations with Europe and to try to get more aid money. For Israel, it allows contact with Arab states in a far less confrontational context than does the "Middle East" label and also, as with the Arabs, another and more relaxed road to Europe. And since it is a Western-organized forum, the participating Arabs can't boycott Israel. Syria, Lebanon, and Libya are not primary participants.

BUT what does it all amount to so far? Well, mostly good conversation and good intentions.

Both the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) have put some money and effort into Mediterranean dialogue. With the collapse of the Soviet bloc, NATO lost its mission by succeeding. The 1990-1991 war over Kuwait showed American and European generals that the main front for future conflicts would be more likely in a southward rather than easterly direction.

The civil war in Algeria has been another important impetus. Fears of terrorism, instability, and hordes of refugees making their way across the central sea were powerful motives. Drug smuggling, money laundering, the collapse of immigration controls, and environmental pollution were also worrisome.

Aside, then, from potential investment (especially in oil and gas), the Europeans decided to pay attention to these poorer, noisier neighbors lest their problems blow up in their quieter neighborhoods.

Economic development, training, and coordination could perhaps avert some unpleasant outcomes. Enlightened self-interest, of course, is sometimes the best of motives.

Is there a Mediterranean culture? Certainly, there are compelling common historical experiences. Of course, the Moorish invasion of Spain, Roman conquest in the land of Israel or the Turkish siege of Malta were not so pleasant at the time. In retrospect, at least, they have become picturesque events in that process called history. And anyone who's ever been in, say, Tunis, Italy, Greece, Beirut, and Tel Aviv – among other places – knows that there are some important psychological and material similarities.

TO BE a region, of course, the Mediterranean has to have political problems. There are the old standbys, the Arab-Israeli and Greek-Turkish conflicts, and some new issues as well. The struggles in the Persian Gulf and the Balkans always seem to seep into the exchanges, reminding us that the Mediterranean with all its difficulties is in better shape than some of its neighbors. These are, however, wars into which local countries may be drafted, or at least the Mediterranean is an important strategic route for getting to these places.

Any Israeli who has ever witnessed a Greek-Turkish (or Indian-Pakistani, for that matter) debate can come away thinking that our disputes are relatively more solvable, though more bitter. Perhaps there is more of an urge to have a peace process precisely because our disputes have been more heated, more violent, more dangerous.

As for Algeria, the terrible civil war goes on, filled with atrocities. Yet there is clearly not going to be any winner, or at least any new radical Islamic regime on the Mediterranean's south shore.

The Mediterranean has certainly not arrived at peace, but perhaps it has at least transcended international war. It has great music and food, people who are warm while intense, having a powerful sense of history yet a willingness to grow and change.

The Mediterranean sounds like a nice region to be a part of, a good club to join.

A Republican center

By RONALD BROWNSTEIN

AUSTIN, Texas – Bush and Dole: Now as in 1988, the two names haunt the Republican Party's conservative activists.

Eleven years ago, many conservatives fumed when the GOP presidential race came down to two candidates rooted in the party's more moderate wing: Bob Dole, then a senator from Kansas, and George Bush, the then-vice president who went on to win the nomination and the White House.

Now, conservative activists confront a 2000 race eerily paralleling the '88 campaign. Once again, the two leading contenders are rooted in the party's center. And once again, they are named Bush and Dole.

Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the former president's son, is the clear front-runner – a position he underscored Sunday by unveiling a heavyweight team of party leaders to head his campaign exploratory committee.

Elizabeth Hanford Dole, the wife of the GOP's 1996 presidential nominee, runs a solid second in the polls and is to announce her own exploratory panel Wednesday in Iowa.

The most conservative candidates eyeing the race – who include 1996 hopeful Steve Forbes, former Vice President Dan Quayle and two-time contender Patrick J. Buchanan – remain confident that many in the party's base will demand a more right-leaning alternative.

But surveys in several key primary states have found Bush and Dole demonstrating such broad appeal – running well even among conservative voters – that they could make it difficult for a challenger to emerge on their right.

"There may just not be enough of those (voters) there on the right to make anyone else viable when you've got two people who have such broad appeal," said Warren Tompkins, a South Carolina-based GOP strategist.

AS Bush and Dole move closer to the race, that prospect is already compelling the most conservative contenders to challenge their credentials.

"Is this really going to be the salvation?" asked Jeff Bell, a senior adviser to social conservative activist Gary Bauer, who plans to announce his presidential candidacy next month.

Referring to President Bush's failed 1992 re-election bid and Bob Dole's loss in 1996, Bell added: "Our nominees were named Bush and Dole the last two times and we averaged about 40 percent of the popular vote. There are a lot of reasons why people should be very chary of that."

Their inherited name identification is part of the reason Gov. Bush and Mrs. Dole, if they run, would begin the race in such strong shape.

Recent polls in states such as Iowa, Michigan and Ohio have found Bush leading, with Dole second. In New Hampshire, the most recent CNN/WMUR survey found Dole and Bush both drawing around 30 percent, with no one else above single digits. In national surveys, Dole still runs second to Bush but more distantly: a new Time/CNN poll puts him at 48 percent and her at 17 percent.

"It's like her and Bush in that tier, and then everybody else," one senior Dole adviser said.

Whether it stays that way is another question. A presidential race headlined by this Dole and this Bush looks far less predictable than the 1988 contest.

Though Bush has been successful as Texas governor, he has never before sought national office. Dole, who recently stepped down as president of the American Red Cross, is even more of a wild card.

Though she has held high-level Washington positions since the mid-1960s, including Cabinet posts, Dole has never run for public office.

That lack of electoral experience may be one reason her prospective candidacy has drawn relatively little support from GOP officeholders, even as governors, state legislators and members of Congress from around the country are in a virtual stampede to endorse Bush.

OTHER questions loom over a potential Dole candidacy. While she has raised millions at the Red Cross, her ability to attract political funds remains unproven. And while she can be an accomplished performer, she also has a reputation for demanding exacting control over all situations – an instinct that may not be compatible with the campaign trail's free-form chaos.

"She is so tightly wound that when they wanted to do a stop with *Better Homes and Gardens* (magazine) last time, she did two hours of prep on her favorite apple pie recipe," said one veteran of the Bob Dole 1996 campaign.

Most unclear is how Mrs. Dole would affect the basic geometry of the emerging GOP race. Like Bush, she has taken few specific positions. Yet her early appearances suggest that she will position herself as a "compassionate conservative" strikingly similar to Bush. Both have presented themselves as advocates of traditional values (and opponents of legal abortion). Given that ideological overlap, some in the GOP believe that Dole's entry would help the conservative candidates by peeling away centrist voters from Bush, if he ultimately runs.

YET a Dole candidacy could have much more complicated implications.

Most immediately, it would put enormous pressure on prospective centrist candidates other than Bush – such as Arizona Sen. John McCain, Ohio Rep. John R. Kasich, and former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander. Each would face a formidable new competitor for attention and fund-raising dollars.

More surprisingly, a Dole candidacy also could threaten the strategies of the conservative candidates.

Almost universally, these contenders believe that the race eventually will come down to a choice between someone from the center and someone from the right. But if Dole can sustain significant support, that assumption may be undermined.

In 1988, conservative candidates such as Jack Kemp also assumed that the race would end up pitting a conservative against a moderate.

But no conservative ever cracked the first tier because George Bush and Bob Dole attracted too much support from conservative voters in the early primaries to leave a base for anyone else.

The same thing could happen this time. In the recent CNN/WMUR poll – as well as a private Iowa survey – the younger Bush and Mrs. Dole ran as strongly among conservative Republicans as they did among moderates.

"If they can hold onto 40 percent of that very conservative group, you don't leave a lot of room for an alternative conservative candidate to emerge," said GOP pollster Whit Ayres.

Forbes adviser Greg Mueller argued that Bush and Dole would see their support narrow on the right "once they start getting into a discussion of the issues."

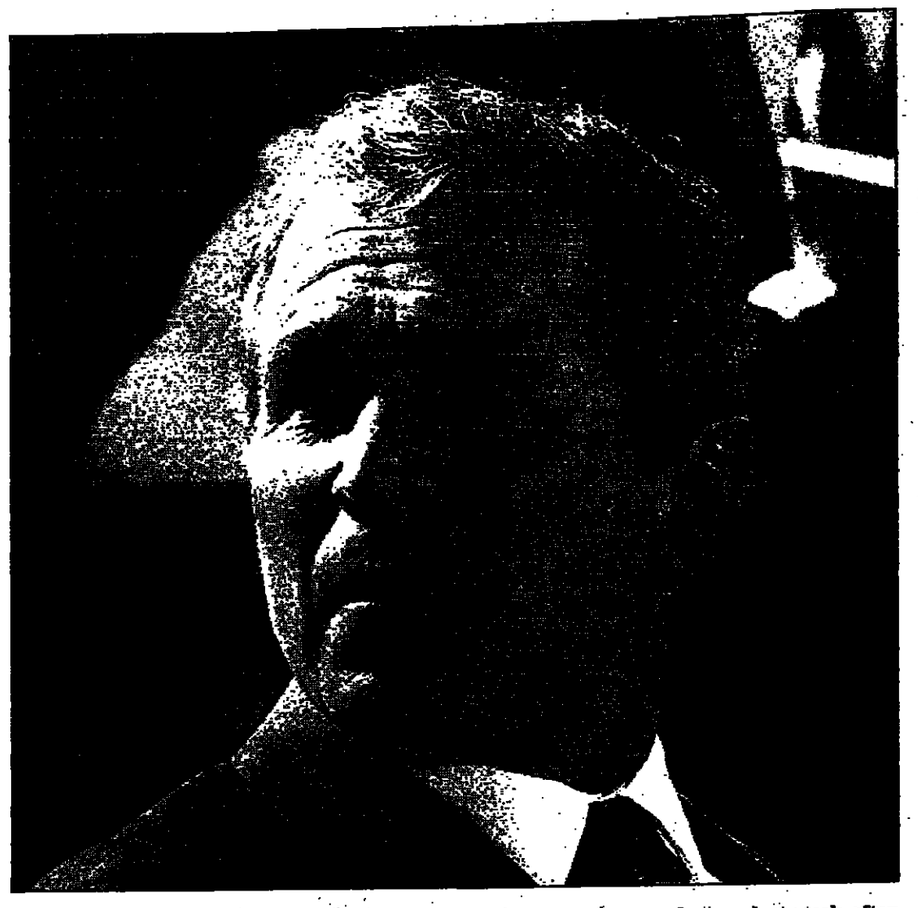
THERE'S another complication facing both the centrist and conservative contenders chasing Bush and Dole. These candidates face the risk that attacks on either of the front-runners could simply drive support from one to the other – rather than to any of them.

Indeed, a recent University of Cincinnati poll in Ohio found that, by far, the top second choice of Bush supporters in 2000 was Dole – and vice versa.

This potential alignment presents a final unusual wrinkle.

Frequently, the No. 2 candidate in the primaries takes the lead in trying to tear down the front-runner. But for now, Bush and Dole show virtually no inclination to criticize each other – perhaps partly because many believe that Dole could be the presumptive choice as Bush's vice president if he runs and wins the nomination.

(LA Times)



Texas Governor George W. Bush listens to a question at a news conference last week after announcing the formation of a presidential exploratory committee to raise money and measure support for a 2000 White House bid. Below: Elizabeth Dole greets supporters at a campaign stop at a Colorado airport earlier this winter. (AP)



Beersheba District Court Legacies File 886/97
Presiding: Judge Alon

In the matter of the probate of the will of the late
Dov David Rubinstein

Petitioner: Ilana Hoffman, Canada

Respondents: 1. The Administrator General
2. Ms. Gilda Cassy, ID No. 310030135

To: Ms. Gilda Cassy

1. In accordance with the decision of Judge Alon on March 3, 1999, you are requested to present your claims to benefits in the estate of the deceased, in the Beersheba Family Court, Rehov Hanesi'im, within 15 days of the publication of this notice.

2. If you fail to do so, the court may issue an order that, according to the provisions of the will, you have no rights in the estate of the deceased.

Hanny Shira, Advocate, Administrator of the Estate
28a Rehov Dizengoff, Tel Aviv
Tel. 03-544-5115

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Qatar embraces democracy

By JOHN DANISZEWSKI

DOHA, Qatar – With one of the world's highest per-capita incomes and only about 150,000 citizens, this small, close-knit state on a peninsula in the Persian Gulf is practically as much a club as it is a country.

Despite its pint size of 4,400 square miles, however, Qatar proved itself this week to be a leader in bringing democracy to the region.

It held its first elections, and in a step that was nothing less than revolutionary for the conservative region, women were permitted both to vote and to run for office.

Amid smiles and a sea of fluttering black veils, democracy was born in Qatar, fittingly, on International Women's Day.

"In my wildest dreams, I wouldn't think it would happen in Qatar in my lifetime," said Jehan Meer, a professor of biochemistry and genetic engineering at the University of Qatar. "But here I am, sitting in an election site."

Meer, who earned a master's degree at California State University, Long Beach, and a doctorate at the University of London, was one of six women who defied the conventions of her country to run for a place on a 29-member council that will advise the Ministry of Local Government.

None of the six women seriously expected to win, and they were right. When returns came in Monday night, an all-male council had been chosen.

But by calling the elections, Sheikh Hamed ibn Khalifa al-Thani sent a not-so-subtle message to his fellow Gulf rulers that the best way for monarchs to stay in power is to voluntarily empower the people.

At Meer's polling station, a school in the eastern part of Doha, the Mercedes, BMWs and Toyota Land Cruisers were tripled-parked outside, as Qataris thronged to fulfill their first act as full-fledged members of a budding democracy.

"I will probably have to wait for an hour," said Khaled Emadi, an employee of the state telephone company. "But we believe we have to vote."

Voters acknowledged that the council on local government was not in itself likely to be very powerful. But the vote still was seen as important because it was the first time since independence in 1971 that Qataris had the chance to vote for official representatives.

Besides, the emir – a 49-year-old baby boomer who has increased freedoms since coming to power in 1995 – has made clear that the council election would be a dry-run for parliamentary elections within three years.

ELECTED government is largely an untried model for the six countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the tribally run, conservative Islamic and Arab states that control much of the world's petroleum. Among the six, only Kuwait has a parliament. And there, women are not allowed to participate. Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates have no direct elections, only consultative councils whose members are appointed to help advise the rulers.

So Qatar's decision was startling, and the move was likely to embolden democrats and women in the region.

In deciding to include women, the emir did meet some murmurs of resistance. Qatar's traditions are not very different from those in Saudi Arabia next door.

In both countries, the majority of women do not venture outside the home unless they are covered in black from head to toe. Most women hide their faces – as well as their hair and bodies – with only the eyes showing through a gauzy or slitted veil. Restaurants and other public places have separate sections for men and women, and females never or almost never drive cars.

Unlike Saudi Arabia, however, in Qatar these social mores are not enforced by the police. Women are free to abide by the strictures or not, and the emir's second wife and consort, Princess Mozah, promotes women's rights.

About 23,000 Qataris registered to vote, including nearly 10,000 women. After nine hours, between 90 percent and 95 percent of those registered had cast ballots in the capital and a somewhat smaller percentage in rural areas, officials said.

The voting went smoothly despite delays due to crowds. In a bow to conservative sensibilities, there were separate voting queues and ballot boxes for men and women.

Most people still are too traditional to actually elect women, said candidate Muza al-Malki, a rare example of a unveiled Qatari woman.

Educated partly in the United States with a degree in family counseling, she is planning to open up the emirate's first family-counseling practice.

Malki said before the vote that no matter what the outcome, she was thinking of the future. "My eye is on the parliament. People have to go onto the next step – this election is the first stop to having a parliament where we can do real changes."

Meer said that even voters who agreed with giving women the vote often think that they are not really ready for public office.

(LA Times)



هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأعلى

Albright begs Congress to delay votes on Kosovo intervention

By TOM RAUM

WASHINGTON (AP) – US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright yesterday urged Congress to put off votes on Kosovo policy during this time of ultra-delicate negotiations, saying it would "complicate our efforts" to broker a peace.

"A vote at any time to oppose an authorization would be taken by both sides as a green light to resume fighting," Albright told a House Appropriations subcommittee.

The House has scheduled a full floor debate for today on whether US troops should be sent to Kosovo. A Senate vote on the same issue could come as early as next week.

Albright said there couldn't be a worse time for Congress to begin debating the issue of US troops – with US envoy Richard Holbrooke in Belgrade meeting with Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic and US President Bill Clinton and most of his national security team out of the country.

Clinton has said he is ready to commit 4,000 US troops to be part of a 28,000-strong NATO peacekeeping force in the Serbian province if a peace accord can be reached between Kosovo's ethnic Serbs and ethnic Albanians.

There is considerable skepticism in Congress about committing US troops, with many members concerned that it would lead to another open-ended commitment like that in Bosnia.

Albright testified before the subcommittee which oversees the State Department budget.

Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Harold Rogers voiced skepticism toward any US mission in Kosovo, asking her what was the US interest in being there – and whether the administration would set an exit deadline.

"We know instability in the Balkans harms US interests," she said, suggesting the conflict could easily spread to other parts of the region. "It's easier to put out a campfire rather than a forest fire," she said.

She also cited "a compelling humanitarian reason" to end the bloodshed. As to exit strategy, Albright said that one of the lessons of Bosnia was "not to set an artificial deadline."

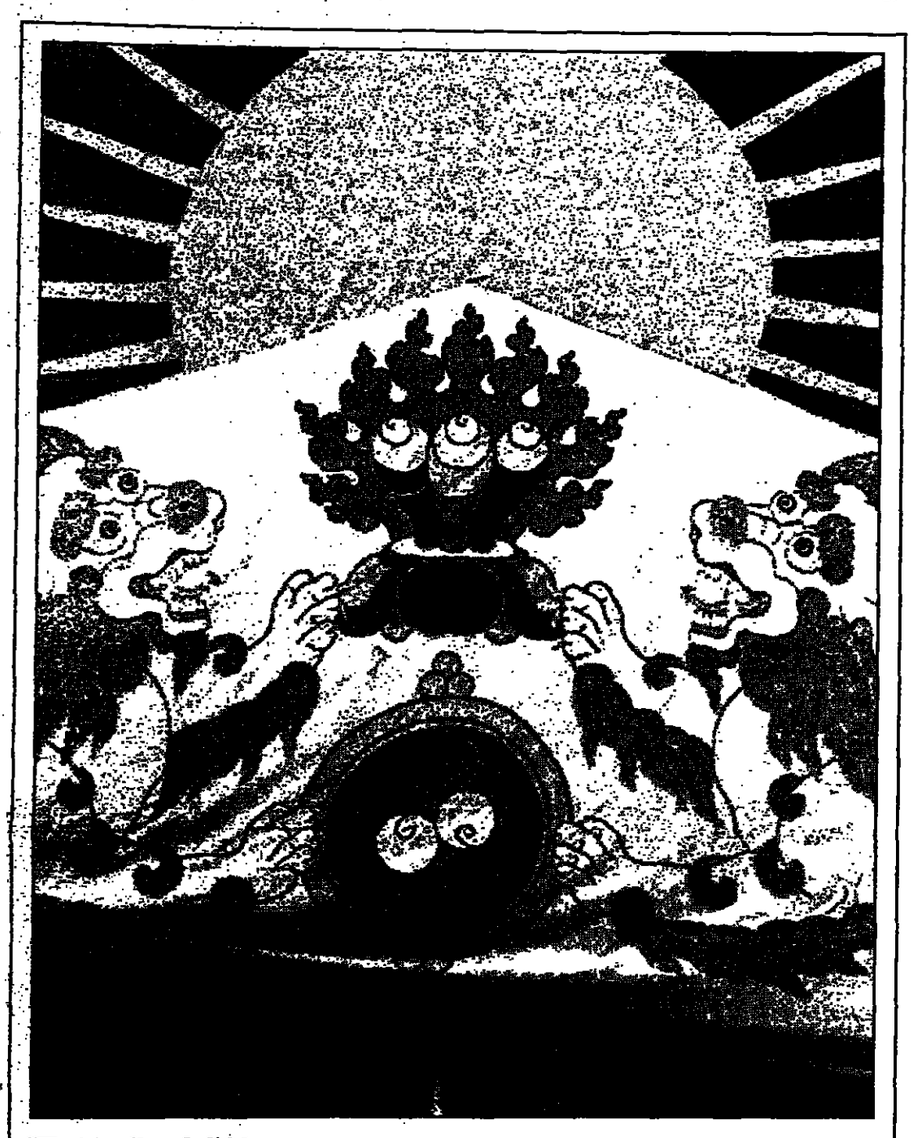
As the House prepared to debate the Kosovo matter, Senate Majority Leader Rep. Trent Lott indicated the Senate will vote soon, too, on whether to set conditions on any deployment of US troops to Kosovo, including how many would go, for how long and how much it would cost.

"I think it's legitimate that we have this debate now," Lott told reporters on Tuesday. "I don't think we should wait until the president presumes without congressional approval to put troops on the ground again."

Lott signaled that the Senate would vote on a series of amendments proposed by Rep. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison that would block funds for such an operation unless the administration met certain conditions, including providing "the expected schedule for accomplishing the mission."

The amendments will be debated when the Senate takes up an emergency $1.9 billion spending bill, perhaps as early as next week. The bill would provide aid for struggling US farmers, the American steel industry, Jordan and the Central Americans struggling to recover from Hurricane Mitch.

"I think it is important that Congress weighs in when we are talking about going into a sovereign nation. That is a very different situation from any we have dealt with in the recent past," Hutchison said.



Tibetan rite of rights

A Buddhist monk peers under a Tibetan flag to get a glimpse of the Dalai Lama in Dharmsala, India yesterday, as he presides over a ceremony marking the 40th anniversary of the uprising against Chinese rule in Tibet. The Dalai Lama affirmed that he believes a political solution ensuring the basic rights and freedoms of Tibetans within the framework of the People's Republic of China is still possible. (AP)

Khatami praises democracy, dialogue

By AFSHIN VALINEJAD

ROME (AP) – President Mohammed Khatami, the first Iranian leader to make a state visit to the West since the 1979 Islamic Revolution yesterday praised both democracy and the start of dialogue between nations.

Italy's premier, flanked by Khatami after two hours of private talks, made clear any openness toward the West must be coupled with respect for human rights and freedom.

Khatami, a 56-year-old cleric considered a moderate for Iran, said: "There's an absolute necessity to install democracy and to end all forms of dictatorship." Khatami also spoke of the "need to free the world of the perpetuation of violence and terrorism.... I am quite proud that at the end of the 20th century I have begun a sort of dialogue between civilizations and countries and different people and cultures," Khatami told reporters.

Despite security tighter than the Italian capital has seen in years, eggs were smashed on Khatami's car as the president was driven through downtown Rome. Police reported that five Iranian protesters were detained.

At a dinner Tuesday night, Khatami declared he had come to Italy "to make our relations a symbol and pattern for friendship between East and West and Islam and Christianity."

In Washington on Tuesday, the State Department expressed hope that Italian officials would raise US concerns about terrorism and other issues during Khatami's visit.

Today's visit shifts attention to the Vatican, where Khatami is to meet with the pope.

French court convicts 6 Libyans in bombing

By PIERRE-ANTOINE SOUCHARD

PARIS (AP) – An anti-terrorism court yesterday convicted Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's brother-in-law and five other Libyans in absentia and sentenced them to life in prison in the 1987 bombing of a French passenger jet.

Libya had refused to hand over the suspects in the attack that killed 170 people, making the French trial largely symbolic.

UTA Flight 772, en route to Paris from Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, exploded over Niger, killing all the crew and passengers. The debris was scattered over 50 miles of the Tenere Desert.

The six convicted included Abdallah Senoussi, a brother-in-law of the Libyan leader. At the time of the crash, Senoussi was the No. 2 man in Libya's intelligence agency.

Investigators who reconstructed the aircraft in Paris concluded that a suitcase loaded with explosives blew up in the baggage compartment.

In 1992, the UN Security Council imposed sanctions on Libya to try to force the North African nation to surrender suspects in the UTA bombing as well as two Libyans wanted in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, that killed 270 people.

The sanctions limit diplomatic contacts, prohibit arms sales and ban flights to and from Libya.

WORLD

in brief

Two charged in China technology scandal

BOSTON (AP) – A federal grand jury indicted two men on charges they tried to illegally export missile-guidance equipment to China.

Collin Xu, 33, a naturalized Canadian citizen, is accused of violating the Arms Export Control Act, conspiracy and money laundering. He could face 65 years in jail. Yi Yao, 33, of Beijing, is accused of violating the export act. He could face up to 10 years in prison.

The two men, indicted Tuesday, allegedly conspired to buy military fiberoptic gyroscopes and ship them to a Beijing firm without notifying the State Department.

Gyroscopes can be used in navigational systems for missiles and aircraft guidance systems.

Bomb blast kills one, injures eight in Istanbul

ISTANBUL (AP) – A bomb ripped apart a taxi outside a state health clinic yesterday, killing the driver and injuring eight people, authorities said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility. Kurdish rebels, leftist and radical Islamic groups are active in Istanbul. Two people injured were reported in serious condition. The blast occurred in the middle-class neighborhood of Bakirkoy, near a busy shopping mall.

The bomb exploded under the rear seat of the taxi, which was parked in front of the clinic, shattering windows and burning five vehicles.

Last week, a car bomb exploded in the Turkish town of Cankiri, killing three. An underground leftist group claimed responsibility.

Japan to ease restrictions on imported fruit

TOKYO (AP) – Japan has decided to allow imports of five kinds of apples and two kinds of cherries, all varieties that the US had pressured Tokyo to approve.

The decision comes two weeks after a World Trade Organization appeals panel ruled that Japan acted illegally by blocking imports of fruit such as apples and cherries on health grounds.

But the move to permit more varieties of foreign fruit was not related to the WTO ruling, Takeo Kocha, an official at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and Fisheries, said yesterday.

"There's no connection," he said, adding that a date has not been set yet for halting the ban on the apples and cherries.

Four journalists arrested in Zambia

LUSAKA, Zambia (AP) – Police arrested four journalists after their newspaper reported flaws in Zambia's defense capability, their editor said yesterday.

The journalists were arrested in raids on their homes overnight and police sealed off the house of another who refused to leave, said Fred M'membe, chief editor of the independent daily *Post* newspaper. A sixth was not home when police came for him.

In its Tuesday edition, The *Post* quoted unnamed senior military officers as criticizing Zambia's ability to defend itself, saying it would not withstand an attack by the far superior army of neighboring Angola.

Official: 2% of Russians are alcoholic

MOSCOW (AP) – Alcoholism among Russian teenagers in on the rise, and drinking problems continue to afflict millions of Russians, a top health official said yesterday.

Some 2.5 million people, or nearly 2 percent of Russia's 146.3m. population, are officially registered alcoholics, but the actual number is probably much higher, Deputy Health Minister Gennady Onishchenko told a news conference.

"This is a frightening figure," he said, according to the Interfax news agency.

Germans drink less beer

BONN (AP) – Beer consumption fell in Germany by 2.9 percent last year, the government said yesterday, continuing a long-term decline as Germans increasingly turn to non-alcoholic drinks.

It slumped in Bavaria, home of the annual Oktoberfest beer bash, by 5.7 percent, according to agriculture ministry data.

A more health-aware public, high joblessness and a sluggish economy apparently account for years of declining beer sales. Germans recently lost the title of biggest per capita beer drinkers to the Czechs.

Though Germany still has some 1,200 breweries, more than the rest of Europe combined, the changing tastes are increasingly putting small beer makers out of business.

Ahern calls for 'final breakthrough' in Belfast

By SHAWN POGATCHNIK

BELFAST (AP) – Sounding upbeat on a day of dashed hope, Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern appealed yesterday for Northern Ireland's deadlocked politicians to achieve "a final breakthrough" before the first anniversary of the Belfast peace accord.

The British government, acknowledging that Catholic and Protestant leaders weren't ready to form a coalition government, earlier this week abandoned yesterday as its so-called "target date" to start returning local government responsibilities to local politicians. It set a new, symbolic deadline: April 2, Good Friday, the anniversary of the accord.

The major Protestant party, the Ulster Unionists, would have four positions in the 12-member, 10-department government. But the would-be government leader, Ulster Unionist chief David Trimble, insists the outlawed Irish Republican Army must start disarming before the IRA's legal Sinn Fein Party can receive its two cabinet posts. Sinn Fein and the IRA have rejected that demand.

Ahern, whose government has co-sponsored the peace process alongside the British, didn't blame either side for the impasse. But he hinted that both the Ulster Unionists and Sinn Fein must move from their positions, noting: "In this process, all parties without exception have already had to swallow in the interests of peace many unpalatable things."

Britain's governor for Northern Ireland, Mo Mowlam, held out hope that the province's political exodus to Washington for St. Patrick's Day might narrow the gap between Trimble and Adams, who are both expected to attend a White House dinner and other events.

"Two or three days away from here with parties just talking is another step in helping them find a way forward. It will have a value that you and I will never see," Mowlam said.

Ahern said the British government has stuck to its commitments in the accord, appointing a human rights commission, launching a police reform commission, reducing troop levels and dismantling certain army installations. Both governments, he noted, have already paroled most of the IRA members and pro-British militants in their prison systems.

"I know that all involved will want to live up to their historic responsibilities, so that the agreement can come fully into effect by its anniversary... The boost to morale in every part of the community as the result of a final breakthrough will be enormous," he said.

Earlier yesterday, Trimble told BBC radio he felt "intensely disappointed about the way this week has turned out." He said he thought Sinn Fein politicians were lying when they said they couldn't influence the IRA's determination to retain its weaponry.

Trimble last year shared the Nobel Peace Prize with John Hume, Sinn Fein's moderate rival for Catholic votes, but Sinn Fein now accuses him of plotting to destroy the agreement.

Survey: Frequent sex helps keep you young

EDINBURGH (Reuters) – Sex at least three times a week can make people look 10 years younger, according to a survey published yesterday.

"It's not a case of these people having more sex because they look younger, they actually look younger because they are having more sex in loving, stable relationships," said Dr. David Weeks, a neuro-psychologist at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital.

Weeks, whose survey took 10 years to complete, told Reuters: "Because these people are having a better sex life, they feel better about themselves and actually look younger." Weeks, an American, interviewed some 3,500 people from Britain, Europe and the US after he placed an advertisement in *New Scientist* magazine in 1988 which asked: "Do you look and feel younger than you are?" His survey of young-looking participants, stretching from rain-swept Scotland to sunny California, found that on average, they had sex at least four times a week – twice as often as the average person.

When the participants were "rated" by volunteers who tried to guess their ages, the men were assumed to be 12 years younger and the women 10 years younger than they actually were.

How does making love tap the fountain of youth?

The human body produces growth hormones and other chemicals like endorphins during sex that enhance the body and mind, Weeks said.

Former senator D'Amato to pen advice column

NEW YORK (AP) – They say politics makes strange bedfellows, but the publishing business can create odd couplings as well.

Former Republican senator Alfonse D'Amato announced he will be penning an advice column – "Ask Alfonse" – for *George* magazine, whose editor-in-chief is John F. Kennedy Jr., nephew of Democratic stalwart Sen. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts.

His first piece of advice was to JFK Jr., saying in a news conference Tuesday that Kennedy might soon "be ready to lead the city of New York."

Kennedy's response: "Really, uh, not today, certainly."

D'Amato, who spent 18 years in Washington before he was defeated by Democrat Chuck Schumer last year, has not exactly been a friend of the Kennedys. In his autobiography, *Power Pasta and Politics*, D'Amato said "Kennedy's dual standards never ceased to amaze me."

Yet he treated his future boss much more kindly in suggesting Kennedy has what it takes for public office. "He's got that electricity. He's got that persona," D'Amato said. "He can do and be whatever he chooses, and he will choose in the fullness of time to pursue public service."

Kennedy said in response that his job as *George* editor "isn't politics but it bumps up against politics... if it changes into something else in a number of years, great."

ISRAEL AIRPORTS AUTHORITY

BEN GURION 2000 PROJECT

Request for Information No. C4070066
Supply, Installation and Servicing of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and Energy Management Control Systems (EMCS)

The Israel Airports Authority (IAA) hereby requests Technical Proposals from qualified Offerors meeting the below listed Pre-Conditions for the Supply, Installation and Servicing of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and Energy Management Control Systems (EMCS) for the Ben Gurion 2000 Project.

Preliminary Mandatory Requirements: This list summarizes the Pre-Conditions for an Offeror's Proposal to be Considered by the IAA. Only the complete language of the Pre-Conditions as stated in the RFP is binding. This text may be obtained by written request, submitted on company letterhead, to the PMF facsimile number stated below.

1. Offeror's minimum annual revenue in each of the last three (3) years was not less than the equivalent of **Five Million U.S. Dollars ($5 Million).**
2. Offeror has
   (i) A minimum of five (5) years experience supplying, installing and servicing SCADA/EMCS systems; and
   (ii) Constructed a minimum of **five (5)** SCADA/EMCS systems of which at least **one (1)** single system contract had **Eight Thousand (8,000)** I/O points and at least **four (4)** system contracts had **Three Thousand (3000)** I/O points, in the last **eight (8)** years. (Contracts must be separate and an individual project cannot be used twice to meet each condition.)
   (iii) Experience in at least **three (3)** projects where he installed a network of at least **five (5)** M.M.I. computers in each one.
   (iv) Experience in at least **three (3)** projects of integrating at least **three (3)** "third party" systems to his system.
   (v) A Day time (8 AM – 5 PM) manned service center.
   Remark; For each of the above projects, noted in items (iii) and (iv), the scope of the contract must include responsibility for the supply, installation and servicing of all equipment.
3. Offeror shall meet the staffing and personnel experience requirements specified in the RFI, Part C.
4. Offeror shall meet the registration requirements for a legal entity stated in the RFI, Part C.
5. Offeror shall meet the VAT and Israeli Tax Authorities' registration requirements stated in the RFI, Part C.
6. Joint Ventures are allowed to participate in the Tender in accordance with the conditions stated in the RFI, Part C, Part I.

Proposal Documents:
RFI Documents may be obtained until the Technical Proposal Submission Date from the Project Management Firm (PMF) Project Office located at Ben Gurion International Airport starting 8 March 1999 between the hours of 09:00 and 12:00, business days (Sunday through Thursday). Interested Offerors must contact the PMF Contracts Administrator, Mr. Amnon Yoshpe at telephone number: 972-3-977-4464 (Fax number 972-3-971-2956) a minimum of forty eight (48) hours in advance to arrange Site access.

A Pre-Proposal conference will be held at Ben Gurion 2000 Project Site Offices on 21 March 1999 at 10:00 to clarify provisions in the RFI documents, to summarize and present the Project. Offerors are strongly encouraged to attend, but participation is not mandatory. Site access must be arranged in advance as stated in the RFI.

All Technical Submittal Proposals shall be delivered in sealed envelopes/packages not later than **10:00 hours** local time on or before **26 April 1999** to Mr. Richard Tattersall, Contracts Manager, Lehrer McGovern Bovis International Ltd., Ben Gurion 2000 Project Site Offices.

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Setting the record straight

Of all the lows to which Israeli politics have stooped, a prime candidate for the lowest was on June 24, 1997, when Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, in an official government response to a no-confidence motion, called opposition leader Ehud Barak "Ehud *barah*" (Ehud fled). Waving a copy of a 1995 article in *Yediot Aharonot*, the minister in charge of the judicial system read out allegations that Barak had abandoned injured soldiers after a tragic training accident that killed five members of an elite unit.

Now, seven years after the tragedy, State Comptroller Eliezer Goldberg has completed an investigation begun by his predecessor, Miriam Ben-Porat. The report has not been released, leading to the common and unfortunate practice of a public debate based on leaks and partial information. But MKs from both Labor and the Likud agree that the charge Barak "fled" the scene to the detriment of injured soldiers was a baseless allegation.

In moral, military, and political terms, no accusation against an Israeli soldier could be more serious than "abandoning the wounded," particularly under circumstances of avoiding responsibility, without any exigencies of battle to possibly mitigate the charge. Aside from the obvious political ramifications, the personal pain that such an accusation must have caused Ehud Barak is hard to imagine.

Though Hanegbi takes the prize for the most cynical, prominent, and irresponsible use of the 1995 press report, initial reactions to the report did not follow party lines in a predictable manner. Some Likud MKs defended Barak, who suspected that its timing was related to internal Labor opposition to his imminent appointment as interior minister in the Rabin government. Likud MK Ze'ev Begin, for example, responded at the time, "The attempt to portray Barak as a coward and someone who would abandon the injured should worry anyone who despises character assassination. The timing of the [media] investigation bears witness to the intentions of its initiators." Shimon Peres, who yesterday defended Barak in glowing terms, responded at that time: "The report and facts that appeared in it create a serious problem in anticipation of Barak's inclusion in the government. The matter must be checked carefully."

By contrast, Binyamin Netanyahu, then opposition leader, reacted more skeptically to the press allegations: "I was sorry to read the things revealed by the [press] investigation. Every effort should be made to discover what happened. A way must be found to determine the truth." The checkered history behind those who sought to breathe life into these allegations ought to bring pause to anyone who wants to continue using them as a political football. Barak himself has handled the issue in a statesmanlike way, reminding everyone that at the heart of the matter are the bereaved families, and pledging that his party would not use the issue for political purposes.

But the current laudable restraint on the part of the Labor Party does not absolve the Likud of its responsibility for taking a misleading press report and cynically distorting it further. The 1995 report, for example, stated that Barak's helicopter left the scene without taking any injured soldiers. This would seem to be factually correct, but does not state facts which change the picture entirely: by the time Barak left, there were two large helicopters on the ground specially equipped for evacuating wounded, all of whom were being attended to.

Even by the low standards of political discourse (including charges of "traitor" and "murderer" by the Right and Left, respectively) the context of Hanegbi's use of the epithet "Ehud *barah*" to describe Israel's most decorated soldier is arguably more serious. This was not an isolated group chanting at a rally, but an official uniquely responsible for the maintenance of the rule of law leveling unsubstantiated charges, while a formal investigation was under way.

Now that the state comptroller's investigation is over, the portions not classified for security reasons should, and no doubt will, soon be made public. During the hiatus between the leaking of the report's substance and its public release, Hanegbi and Netanyahu will have time to reconsider their initial unrepentant approach.

They should not hide behind the fact that the comptroller may not have completely resolved questions of what Barak might have done, beyond the swift and professional treatment that the injured received, to comfort and assist them. It is hard to believe that anyone can honestly argue that, as chief of General Staff, they can be sure he should have behaved differently.

Rather, Hanegbi personally, and Netanyahu on behalf of the Likud Party, should assess whether they have deeply wronged a public figure who, though a political rival, deserves an apology. "Mine honor is my life," said a noble to the king in Shakespeare's *Richard II*. In politics, honor may not be accorded such weight these days, but it ought to count for something.

Awaiting justice

URI DAN

The alacrity with which our investigative and judicial authorities questioned and charged Yisrael Bondak with broadcasting incitement on a Jerusalem radio station is to be welcomed. But this efficiency makes one wonder, three-and-a-half years after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, when agent provocateur Avishai Raviv will finally be brought to justice.

There is incontrovertible evidence to this effect, hidden for three years in the files of the Shamgar Commission and the Israel Police.

People in the government may argue that Raviv's handlers had no way of knowing in advance about *all* the provocative things their agent might do.

But there no doubt is evidence in Raviv's file indicating that at least some of the provocations had advance approval, not just from his handlers in the GSS but from the State Attorney's Office, approval that later led to the closing of criminal investigations against Raviv. The stupid-to-the-point-of-criminal explanation for this collusion was that "it was the only way for him to penetrate the groups on the extreme Right."

Legal action against Avishai Raviv is probably being delayed because it would expose the collusion between the GSS and State Attorney's Office in the handling of this agent provocateur

Israelis have short memories. Raviv did not represent only himself, as Bondak did, and did not act, as Bondak did, in a privately owned framework. Raviv was getting a government salary as an agent for the General Security Service, which considered him a success story.

In testimony before the Shamgar Commission that investigated the Rabin assassination, Raviv's handlers recalled with pride how "they had succeeded in getting him into groups that are difficult to infiltrate," namely, groups on the extreme Right. It was a fact that he knew assassin Yigal Amir well.

What has been kept secret by the law-enforcement authorities – the attorney-general, the state attorney, and the GSS – is how Raviv turned from a secret agent into an agent provocateur. An agent who incited to violence, who organized impressionable youths into a "violent right-wing organization," which was introduced on television in a fraudulent, set-up broadcast, and most seriously, who provoked and encouraged Yigal Amir to shoot Rabin.

THE execution of judgment against Avishai Raviv is therefore the only way, not only to punish him, but to shine some much-needed light on this darkest of corners, in which the security and law-enforcement authorities met to operate this agent provocateur.

After all, we are talking about the most serious lapse of the GSS under Carmi Gillon, which ultimately ended in the murder of the prime minister.

One could assume that Raviv's trial is being delayed – even as the handling of Bondak's case is being expedited – for reasons other than just the agreements between Raviv and the GSS. It is being held up because it would expose the responsibility of various people in both the GSS and the State Attorney's Office for the cavalier handling of Raviv.

Current GSS head Ami Ayalon has made progress in cleaning out the stables there, which were full of all kinds of refuse since the days of the Bus 300 incident. But the protection still being accorded to Raviv and his handlers raises serious questions about how successful Ayalon has been at the disinfecting process.

This issue is of utmost importance, given the unending incitement against Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, in the spirit of Ammon Lipkin-Shahak's comment that "Netanyahu is a danger to the state."

This type of awful incitement is going on around the clock by power-hungry politicians, who get the full cooperation of most of the media. Such incitement could lead to violence or even to murder, even though that is not anyone's intention.

One cannot recall such incitement other than in the historical hate campaigns of Labor and the Left: against Ze'ev Jabotinsky after the murder of Arlosoroff ("Vladimir Hitler") against Menachem Begin ("the fascist"), and against Ariel Sharon ("the murderer").

The GSS needs agents in the right places, but not provocateurs. There are enough of those in Labor and the Left.

Dry Bones



What price religious pluralism?

DANIEL DORON

Torn by an election process that is especially acrimonious and disruptive, Israelis could use some spiritual respite. It would be a great blessing if the 29th International Convention of the World Union of Progressive Judaism – which opened Tuesday on its beautiful Jerusalem campus – could provide us with this.

But, alas, our Reform Jewish brethren seem intent on getting involved in Israel's political mess, determined to further inflame a process already suffering from too much sectoralism.

It is not only arguments about war and peace that raise the temperature of Israeli political discourse to fever pitch. Life here is extremely tense. Most Israelis, talented and hardworking, find it most difficult to make a living, because of the country's extremely statist, centralized, and therefore grossly inefficient economy.

The state systems providing healthcare, education and police protection at great cost, barely function. And Israelis, of course, live in a constant state of siege.

All these should explain to our guests why nerves here are so badly frayed. It seems so unfair for them to add, unnecessarily it seems, more intractable problems and then threaten to withdraw their generous and loving support – which is so vital, if not monetarily, then certainly politically and morally – unless we solve them right away.

Unfortunately, conflicts over religious pluralism have deep historical roots in our community, and they cannot be resolved in haste or with belligerence. It also has intractable political ramifications. This is why politicians of both camps try so desperately to avoid dealing with it.

American or European Jews, living in an atmosphere of relative religious freedom, find it difficult to comprehend this, since in their countries individuals are free to decide what faith to follow. Post-enlightenment US and European Jewry could respond to modernity by developing neo-Orthodox, Conservative and Reform movements. Religious pluralism came about gradually, naturally, out of individual choice and over time.

Our Reform and Conservative brethren can contribute much to Israeli society, but throwing fuel on the cultural fire is not the way

Not so in Palestine. Turkish law, which still prevailed in religious matters even in mandatory times, organized religion by communities. It granted them state sanction as organized groups, not as individuals. So religion was involved with the state and with politics from early on, creating strong precedents, interests and dependencies that will not be simple to change or overcome.

Then came the militantly anti-religious socialists who dominated Jewish life in Palestine. They opened a bitter cultural and economic war against religious communities, first those of the Yishuv and later the observant Jews from Arab countries. They put strong pressures on them to discard their traditions, sometime even forcibly. No one preached pluralism then.

SO not all intolerance stems from the haredim. In fact, they have often reacted to a war against them, as have the "Sephardim" more recently. Through Shas, they revolted against the militant secularism that smashed their social structure and caused them enormous social and economic problems.

Religion has, furthermore, become involved with politics, as the two major political blocs found it profitable to purchase the support of religious parties to help gain political control. The Orthodox community, like the kibbutzim, for example, were finally corrupted by government handouts that created a culture of dependency. However, the Orthodox were singled out for blame, even though they were playing the same political game as everyone else.

It is all one unholy mess, and the Reform and the Conservative movements have unfortunately stepped right into it, like so many bulls in a china shop. Anyone who considers with care the extremely difficult life in Israel, the brittle nature of the consensus that holds us together, must acknowledge that Israel can ill afford to have more fuel thrown on the cultural fire.

With all due respect to the really important question of religious pluralism, and to the status and dignity of Reform and Conservative rabbis, do our good brethren really believe that they can justify an all-out war just now, when Israelis have so much to contend with?

Have any of them noticed, incidentally, that besides religious pluralism, Israel also lacks any other sort of pluralism? Have any of them paid attention to our single-voiced media, for example, or our monolithic culture and economy, that have all been shaped by decades of total Socialist domination?

The Conservative and the Reform movements have much to contribute toward the building of a civil society in Israel, by encouraging greater spirituality and pluralism. But making war about the issue of conversion, an issue that does not really touch the life of thousands, or by throwing their lot with one political camp and taking sides in very divisive issues, is not the way.

Religious movements should rise above the political fray. The Reform and Conservative leaders should focus on non-partisan educational and spiritual work, and shy away from politics, despite the ambition of some of their Israeli rabbis.

Let them first establish a local constituency, the way Shas did. For the meantime, Israel does not need more religious partisanship inflaming its politics. It is too high a price to pay, even for religious pluralism.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INFURIATING FARCE

Sir, – Was anyone else besides myself infuriated by watching the televised beauty pageant which had Miss World present the crown to the new Miss Israel, Rana Raslan? Here was a farce and an embarrassment to females, in the guise of a ceremony to "honor" beautiful ladies.

It began with a skit showing a blonde bimbo-type being tied-up and gagged (!), and continued throughout the evening with a parade of drag queens and numerous verbal entendres that belittled and demeaned the girls who were competing for the title.

International Women's Day was marked this week, with a report that showed how women are routinely abused worldwide. In fact, your issue of March 8 (Page 4) mentioned that rapes and domestic violence are on the increase in Tel Aviv.

Miss World was herself a victim of violence (kidnapped, bound and gagged, and raped), and I for one am amazed that she went so far as to actually *thank* the producer for the bizarre and insulting show that evening.

A.J. WEISS

Tel Aviv.

BATTLING TERRORISTS

Sir: –Battling terrorists is a difficult process. It is made more complicated by numerous political, legal and moral considerations.

Being involved in that battle, I know firsthand of the disappointments one faces when complications arise. Why then, when it comes to extradition requests, must we mix apples and oranges as did attorney Nitsana Darshan-Leitner in an opinion piece first published in *The Jerusalem Post* on March 2?

Seemingly disturbed by the intense American effort to have Samuel Sheinbein extradited to the US, Ms. Darshan-Leitner writes that she is surprised that "neither the [Clinton] administration, nor the Congressmen who have taken an interest in the Sheinbein case" have demanded the extradition of Palestinian terrorists to the US.

The implication is that Israel's Supreme Court is somehow reacting to the failure of the US government to respond to the request being made by American parents, including myself, for the arrest and extradition of Arab terrorists believed to be responsible for attacks on Americans, including my daughter Alisa.

Yet, it might surprise Ms. Darshan-Leitner to learn that the American government is actively working on these cases with an eye towards preparing indictments that will stand up in the US. Furthermore, it appears that hearings will soon be held in the US Senate that will, I hope, lead the administration to speed up the investigation and extradition process.

Comparing the merits of the Sheinbein case – he's accused of a grisly murder – to those involving my daughter and the other Americans killed in Israel is a cheap shot. Ms. Darshan-Leitner knows full well that there must be an overriding local interest in order to deny extradition in a criminal case.

Israel's law protecting its citizens from extradition was designed to protect its citizens from prosecution abroad because they were either Jews or Israelis. The charges against Mr. Sheinbein have no relationship to the fact that he is Jewish or a citizen of Israel.

The price for playing tit-for-tat when it comes to the extradition of alleged common murderers and terrorists is too expensive and not worthy of a democratic process.

STEPHEN M. FLATOW,

West Orange, New Jersey.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On March 11, 1934, *The Palestine Post* reported that the editors of the Hebrew press had apologized to the High Court in contempt-of-court proceedings. They were accused of having published the restricted story of the alleged confession of Abel Mejid made concerning the murder of Dr. Haim Arlosoroff, which caused a major sensation.

50 years ago: On March 11, 1949, *The Palestine Post* confirmed that a small Israel mechanized column reached Umm Rashrash (in Israeli territory) on the coast of Eilat. Israel denied the Amman report that the column was stopped at one point by the Arab Legion forces.

25 years ago: On March 11, 1974, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the Prime Minister, Mrs. Golda Meir, had secured a Knesset vote of confidence in her new coalition government, by 62 against 46 votes, and pledged to continue the peace talks in Geneva.

Alexander Zvielli

The View From the East

DAOUD KUTTAB

From the female perspective

As a man, I don't feel qualified to speak on the issue of Palestinian women. But because International Women's Day this week has served to focus on women's issues, I decided to use my column to give several women the opportunity to express themselves on matters that concern them.

Like me, Rawia Shawwa, the outspoken member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, doesn't like the idea of one day a year set aside for women, just like she doesn't like the idea of one day a year being devoted to democracy. (The PLC, which was inaugurated four years ago on March 7, declared this day "Democracy Day" and organized seminars and lectures throughout Palestine dealing with the issue of democracy.)

Shawwa doesn't consider herself a women's activist.

"I am active on issues of society," she told me by phone from her Gaza home. She feels that for society to move forward a marked change in the economic situation facing women is needed.

"In Gaza, women suffer because of the economic situation," she said. "While Gazan men can go abroad or work in Israel, women are left at home and suffer greatly as a result."

To get out of this predicament, Shawwa believes there is need for social change.

"We need to work on raising the level of social awareness, so that women will not shy away from work."

Huda Immam, who is working in a Palestinian vocational training center, lays part of the blame on people involved in the various nongovernmental organizations.

"The gender issue must be dealt with internally; as the saying goes, 'charity begins at home.'"

Immam says that many institutions that preach gender are themselves discriminating by giving key jobs to men.

"We must stop thinking that having women secretaries and support staff is being gender correct. Women should be involved in policy-making jobs and not just token work."

Benaz Someri-Batrawi, head of adult programming at Al Quds Educational Television, feels that women's organizations are wasting their time by targeting women.

"They must target decision makers, who in our society are still men. At best, these organizations should target men and women together. Otherwise what we will have is relatively conscious and educated city women, but in the rural areas, in which the majority of women still live, women will continue to suffer."

Attorney Hanan Bakri from the Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counseling feels that the situation of women in rural areas needs a lot of legal attention.

"Our criminal laws are from the Napoleon's days and they are very lenient with regard to violence against women. We hear horrible stories of women in the villages being attacked and sometimes killed 'for the sake of honor.'"

Bakri wants the Palestinian legislature to move to pass much tougher laws against crimes of passion, so that this will deter violence against women.

Bakri also wants a law to give women 10 weeks of maternity leave instead of the present 45 days, and is especially passionate about a minimum age for marriage.

"There is no religious reason why the age should not be 18, which will be in concert with the Mandatory Education Law," she said, explaining that if girls can't marry before 18, they have a better chance of finishing school.

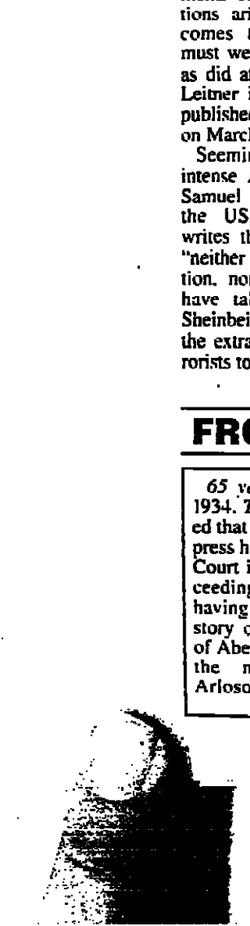
She would also would like to see laws restricting arbitrary divorce.

Education for girls was also highlighted at a conference held under the auspices of Suha Arafat, who heads the Higher Council for Childhood and Motherhood.

One of the speakers, Stephan de Vylder from Sweden, said that investing in girls' education goes a long way in helping societies advance for several generations.

"Undeveloped countries usually say that they can't afford to invest in education, but developed countries say they can't afford not to invest in education."

To the women of Palestine and the world, happy International Women's Day.



هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Weekender

Steeling the show

Othello Molineaux, a jazz great on the steel drum, plans to have fun playing here this week.

By BARRY DAVIS

As a teenager in Trinidad, Othello Molineaux was one of the hottest jazz pianists around. Forty years on, the Miami-based Molineaux is the world's leading exponent of jazz steel-drum artistry.

On closer look, however, Molineaux's pedigree may seem more akin to the equivalent of winning the title of champion belly dancer in Alaska, or best figure skater in the whole of the Sahara.

"The jazz community where I come from is very small," admits Molineaux, who performs tonight and tomorrow at the Tel Aviv Museum. "You don't hear much jazz in Trinidad at all."

And, when it comes to competition in his chosen field, Molineaux has all of one other established player to contend with – Denmark-based steel drummer Rudy Smith. "There are a few other steel-drum musicians around, but they don't really play jazz," Molineaux adds.

But none of this should detract from the scale of the man's achievements in pioneering the steel drum as a jazz instrument, and in bringing it to the attention of wildly receptive audiences in places as geographically and culturally disparate as Los Angeles, Finland, Trinidad and Japan.

Growing up in the West Indies, where the prevailing musical menu was almost exclusively local calypso, surely it wasn't easy finding the kind of jazz sounds the young Molineaux yearned for. But, he did get something of a head start from his older brother, Horace, who was already a jazz musician, and a leading light of the local jazz community.

"They'd hold meetings in our house, and I'd listen to all my brother's jazz records – anything I could lay my hands on," Molineaux recalls. The only source of outside jazz stimuli at the time was provided by a "very small local jazz radio station" and the jazz played by the station of the nearby US Army military base.

Wasn't it frustrating being a young, aspiring jazz musician in the Caribbean? "I just loved it, I didn't really care how popular it was," he says. "Mind you, I didn't get much work," he laughs, adding that he also played a lot of "commercial stuff" – reggae and calypso in order to pay the bills. "You have to do that sometimes, you know," he observes philosophically.

DESPITE the complete absence of forerunners in the art of jazz steel-drum playing, Molineaux says he was influenced by a wide range of musicians.

"I grew up listening to all the greats – pianists like George Shearing and Bill Evans, and [saxophonist] John Coltrane – but I really had to create my own style."

And, when it comes to the steel pans, forging a style is not simply a matter of mastering steel percussion and searching for new ways to play it. One of the unique features of this particular instrument is that each drum is made by a specific craftsman, or pan tuner, who builds each individual steel drum with its own sequence of notes. As a result, each player can generate sound based on his personal concept of harmonic structure.

Since its invention in Trinidad in the 1940s, the steel drum has been identified with Caribbean music and, as Molineaux explains: "people like the romantic sound of the steel drum. But there was the possibility of being either a spontaneous or a conventional player, and I chose to try to arouse interest – an intellectual interest – in the instrument by using it for jazz."

But the steel drum is surely not an instrument one would normally associate with jazz. Molineaux rejects this suggestion outright: "The drum is a very chromatic instrument – all the notes are there – so I don't see any reason why you shouldn't play jazz on it."

He points out that, as the steel drum is not an inherently coherent instrument, the player is left to make up his own rules. Molineaux explains that the piano, for example, involves a great deal of finger interplay and chromatics which help the pianist to perform and to create the notes, "and there are plenty of other pianists whose styles you can follow."

But the steel drum has no established patterns of operation. Doesn't this make steel-drum playing that much more difficult? "Yes," concurs Molineaux. "but that's the most interesting thing about it."

HAVING already migrated from his native Trinidad to the Virgin Islands at the age of 30, Molineaux decided to upgrade his market potential by moving to Florida in the early '70s..

If he had any illusions about the promise of the US, he was soon brought down to earth with a rude bump. "I was playing a new instrument, jazz isn't really a popular form of music, and didn't even have a market to play to – that was rough." Still, Molineaux set to his formidable task and was soon playing his steel drums at a motley variety of venues all over the country, and also began recording with established stars on the American jazz circuit.

Bassist Jaco Pastorius and Jamaican-born pianist Monty Alexander were among the first to welcome Molineaux into the local jazz community and today the list of leading jazz players with whom he has collaborated almost reads like a Who's Who of the cream of the global jazz community.

Considering that until recently the steel drum was confined exclusively to the Caribbean and to West Indian communities dotted around the western world, musical synergies with the likes of Dizzy Gillespie, Pastorius, Herbie Hancock, Art Blakey and Joe Zawinul represent no mean feat.

But it hasn't been roses all the way, and one of the most difficult decisions Molineaux encountered in making the transition from the piano to the steel pans was to give up the former and devote himself entirely to the art of steel percussion.

"Yes, it was a great sacrifice," he recalls. "At the time, I thought that to do what I wanted to do with the instrument I had to devote myself to it entirely." However, his championing of the jazz steel drum has left its mark on the music-loving public, as well as on professional practitioners of jazz.

"Now, the steel drum is well established," says Molineaux. "But back when I was trying to create a market for it, it seemed like such a humongous task." He even admits that he contemplated giving up the steel drums at one time.

Thankfully, he stuck to his drums.

Several decades and over 20 albums later, Molineaux maintains a sober attitude toward the plaudits he has received over the past two decades – including the 1993 Best Jazz Album award by the Miami-based *New Times* for his *It's About Time* CD, a couple of Grammy nominations, and even a commendation by the Ohio House of Representatives, in 1987, for his contribution to music. "It's the instrument which is important," he says altruistically.

Today, Molineaux's gigs are greeted with abundant enthusiasm and interest , and local jazz and world music fans stand to enjoy a rare treat when Molineaux, together with Venezuelan pianist Silvano Monosteros, struts his stuff in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv this week.

"I'm looking forward to it," says Molineaux, "it's gonna be fun."



Steel-drum maestro Othello Molineaux and pianist Silvano Monasterios (below) strut their stuff in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.



Not just a movie conflict

By PATRICK GOLDSTEIN

It only took one glance at Edward Norton, stripped down to sweatpants and sneakers, playing pickup basketball at Venice Beach, to make it obvious that *American History X* would be no ordinary movie. It wasn't the star's shaved head that grabbed your attention.

It was the tattoos. His chest was decorated with a Nazi swastika, his shoulder with an Iron Cross. His biceps bulged with a Nazi war eagle. On his forearm was the inscription: "White Power." On his back was "DOC," short for Disciples of Christ, an Aryan white-supremacy group. As Norton dribbled the ball down court, you noticed something else – his team was all white, the opposing team all black.

Racial taunts echoed back and forth as director Tony Kaye filmed the players jockeying for position under the basket. This wasn't just a game of basketball. It's a battle for turf. After Norton wins the game with an easy layup, he made his attitude clear. "Get off my (expletive) court!" he told the opposing team. "This is my house!"

During a break in filming, Kaye struggled to explain the point of this particular scene. Finally, a simple answer comes to mind: "It's about hate," he said. "Hate and anger."

In Hollywood, controversy is often nothing more than a marketing tool. But *American History X*, opening here tonight, has emerged as one of the hot-topic films of the year, though not for the reasons New Line Cinema had intended when it began shooting the film early last year.

Written by 30-year-old screenwriter David McKenna, *American History X* had all the makings of a must-see movie that would inspire the sort of stormy op-ed page debate enjoyed by such films as *JFK* and *The People vs. Larry Flynt*. Raw and inflammatory, it cast Norton as a virulent white supremacist imprisoned for killing two black youths who tried to steal his truck. When he emerges from prison, he's a changed man. But can Norton stop his hate-filled younger brother, who's already writing worshipful accounts of *Mein Kampf* for his history class, from following in his footsteps?

The film is anything but politically correct. Its dialogue is laced with profanity directed at blacks, immigrants and Jews. It features a graphic scene in which a Norton-led skinhead posse trashes a Korean-owned food market. Many viewers will no doubt be disturbed by Norton's racist character, who, even before he has a change of heart, is easily the most charismatic character in the film.

BUT when the film was released last October, its impact was undermined by an ugly, very public spitting match between New Line and Kaye, a conceptual artist turned TV commercial director who has been as angry and unpredictable as any of the characters in his movie.

There were arguments on and off the set, as well as bitter rewrite and editing battles, which culminated in two edited versions of the film, one Kaye's, the other Norton's. New Line test-screened a version of the movie that incorporated many of the changes made by Norton.

The screening went so well that New Line Productions President *Mike De Luca* and *New Line Cinema* Chairman Bob Shaye had a meeting with Kaye where they tried to persuade him to let New Line release the film in its current form. That was the moment when events began to spiral out of control. Incensed, Kaye threatened to take his name off the film.

Wounded by what he saw as a New Line betrayal, Kaye began a series of increasingly bizarre and combative actions that eventually destroyed any possibility of an amicable solution.

First came the now-legendary Hollywood trade ads, which quoted everyone from John Lennon to Patanjali, the Indian founder of yoga. Some of the ads were clearly designed to shame New Line, including one that quoted Edmund Burke as saying: "All that is necessary for the forces of evil to win in the world is for enough good men to do nothing." Kaye lost his battle to have his name removed from the film's credits – he had suggested 'Humpty Dumpty at one point – but realized that his vexing behavior earned him little sympathy in bottom-line-oriented Hollywood, where he was viewed more as a kooky publicity seeker than an imperiled artist.

"People think I'm mad," he said at the time. "But outsiders like me are always seen as being crazy. It's only after we're dead that people finally say, 'You know, he actually made a lot of sense.' "

In the event Kaye has been vindicated, sort of. Norton has a Best Actor nomination in next week's Oscars. (Los Angeles Times)

Music on my mind

Poet Ronny Someck moves to that different drummer



"People used to ask me where I want to go in life, and I would answer, 'when I get back, I'll know where I've been.'"

Ronny Someck will have lots of stories to tell when he "gets back" from this metaphorical journey.

His work has been translated into 20 languages; he has created exhibits with visual artists, written children's books, and in 1989 won the Prime Minister's Prize. Most recently, a CD he created with the American avant-garde "multi-instrumentalist" musician Elliot Sharp, entitled *Revenge of the Stuttering Child*, was chosen by *Wire* magazine as the disc of the year.

"When you publish a poem, everybody sees it in relation to his own history: but the hope is that they will also see something more universal," he says.

Poets observe and bring the meaning of events to the observers; they reveal something about the world that the observer couldn't have otherwise articulated, with words that come together in almost a "magical" way, Someck says.

Combining his poetry with Sharp's music was a natural step which has – judging from their overflowing venues in the last few weeks – landed him no small measure of success.

Someck pays tribute to the five musicians who have influenced him the most.

1. Elliot Sharp

"Sharp's music is like a boxing glove. It has the tough leather of the glove, but it doesn't neglect the soft underside. Sometimes I feel that he writes his notes not on a sheet of paper, but on a sheet of glass; he loves the narrow space between the beauty of the glass, and ability of the same glass to draw blood...."

2. Om Kolthom

"She is the vocal line to my childhood. My grandfather would take me every morning to the coffee shop, and on the great phonograph, we heard only her. Her voice drew pictures in my mind of jungles where one is easily trapped, and must wait in fear to be devoured by the lion's great teeth.

"Om Kolthom was at that time the 'voice of the enemy,' the singer of Abdel Nasser. My parents listened to her anyway; they believed that music has no passport; they believed that her voice shouldn't have borders.

"Today, I listen to her both for nostalgia, and because I am starting to know all the trees in the jungle of her voice."

3. Henry Rollins

"Rollins is a poet and a singer. He is a musician who isn't scared to smell the trash can. On one hand, it's hard to dance the tango to his music. On the other hand, it is easy to dance the tango to his music on the condition that you imagine the floor as a floor of fire."

4. Eric Clapton

"At age 16, I had no words under the listing 'guitar' in my private rock 'n' roll dictionary. There was a picture of Eric Clapton's guitar. Clapton proved that the guitar is a locomotive, to which everyone can hitch his own private car of associations. His guitar carries everything.

5. Yair Dalal

"When I hear Yair Dalal, I feel that there is no need to look for my roots, because I've never lost them. Dalal's roots are planted very firmly in Eastern ground. He ranks with the great Iraqi players and manages to leave his distinct impression on each note.

"His music is like steps in the desert sands. The land knows to gauge who is treading on it with a harsh step and who treads with a loving gait. Dalal's footsteps are tread with love." – *Dalilia Scheindlin*

After Hours returns next week.

Ho tip

Tel Aviv

In answer to the seemingly endless stream of musicians from other parts of the world, Tel Aviv shows its local talent this weekend with some of the best performers on the pop music scene. **Corrine Allal** wields her lusty yet melodic voice tonight with **Eran Tzur** at the Theater Club in Jaffa, 12 Sderot Yerushalayim. Starts at 10 p.m. Call (03) 527-9798. The same venue offers another heavyweight on Saturday night when ***Ehud Banai*** gives a concert with material from his newest album. Banai's rich mix of percussion, ethnic influences and probing lyrics are uplifting and contemplative at the same time. Starts at 9:30.

Meanwhile, the **Barbie** is fast making a name for itself as a major venue for promoting young and often new artists in the Israeli pop/rock scene. Tonight the wide-open space at 40 Salame Street features **Infectzia** at 10.

Of course, it wouldn't be a weekend without just a few foreign visitors. Tonight, honored guests rule the jazz options: **Tony Pearson** plays funky jazz, hip-hop and R&B to the vocal accompaniment of **Liat Ben-Simon** at the extremely civilized venue of the Habimah Heineken Club. Starts at *10:30 p.m. Call (03)* 528-5222.

Next up is the World Jazz series which hits the Tel Aviv Museum tonight, **Othello Molineaux** offers his tempting and original steel-drum virtuoso performance, accompanied by **Silvano Monasterios** on the piano. Starts at 9. (03) 696-1297. For anyone too lazy to go out after a work day, the show will be repeated tomorrow night at 9:30.

Excitement is also to be found at the theater tonight, as Beit Lessin opens with an original new play, ***Jacko***, starring the beloved Moshe Ivgi as the loser of the title. Starts at 8:30. Call (03) 694-1111.

Literary types will be pleased by the Gesher adaptation of Dostoyevsky's ***The Idiots***, which will be performed this evening at the newly occupied Noga Theater on 9 Yerushalayim in Jaffa. At 8:30. Call (03) 560-0783.

Anybody who is still unsatiated is invited to view ***Labor of Life***, a classic work by Hanoch Levin. This Beit Lessin production, which is visiting the Eretz Israel Museum in Ramat Aviv tonight, *starts at 8:30. (03) 643-6888*

Jerusalem

Jerusalem is competing for the best theater event of the weekend with the opening of another new play at the Sherover Theater. A team effort between the Khan Theater and the Jerusalem Theater, ***Sky*** is a comedy-drama about art, entertainment and commercialism. Starts at 8:30. Call (02) 560-5755.

Ethnic Week continues through Sunday at the Jerusalem Music Center, with the theme ***A Window to Musical Cultures***. The program features master classes, workshops, illustrated lectures, traditional food tastings, ethnographic exhibitions of traditional clothing, jewelry, crafts etc. Daily from 10 to 5 p.m. Call (02) 623-4347 for details.

The Israel Museum is also in on the jazz mania and is offering ***The Voice and the Instrument: International Jazz*** series. Tonight it's French musicians Laika Fapien on vocals and Jean Loup L'Ongon on trumpet at the Springer Auditorium at 8:30. (02) 670-8985.

Definitely take advantage of the warming trend and head out to the Pargod for a Friday **jam session**, where a mere NIS 10 brings in the first drink and the music goes on until Shabbat. Starts at 1:30 p.m., 94 Bezalel. Call (02) 623-2646.

On Saturday night Pargod starts right up again, with ***World Music from Close By***. The Working Souls play a potluck of ethnic music with the tantalizing combination of a flute, a cello, percussion and the ubiquitous guitar and bass. Starts at 9:30.

And Points Beyond

Rock 'n' roll will be the theme tonight at the incongruously named Opera House Club that is hosting an evening called ***The Revolution is Coming Soon***. Call (050) 240-538 for details.

The popular and stirring Fringe play ***Before the Bride Chokes*** was featured last fall in Acre's alternative theater festival to wide acclaim. Haifa is the lucky host of this work tonight at the Theater Club, starting at 8:30 p.m.

The Pajama Game is also in Haifa tonight at the Haifa Theater, starting at 8:30. (04) 825-1475.

But the crowning glory of the weekend is the winter **Jazz Festival** in Ashdod, which begins tonight. Catch the Avraham Felder Big Band, Danny Sagy, Leonid Patchka and Freeway from New York among others. Takes place at the Ashdod Auditorium at 8:30.

Weekender Food & Drink



Try it fried

By STEPHANIE WITT SEDGWICK

My croissants are flaky. My jam gels. My pot roast is tender. But despite numerous attempts, I just could never make fried chicken that satisfied me. My chicken was either soggy and overcooked or crispy brown and raw at the bone.

What was I missing? Turns out, I wasn't listening to the chicken.

"Let the chicken talk to you," says Damon Lee Fowler, author of *Fried Chicken: The World's Best Recipes From Memphis to Milan, From Buffalo to Bangkok* (Broadway, $15).

You can flour the chicken, batter it, deep-fry it, pan-fry it, stand over it, cover it. But if you don't hear a sizzle you're in trouble.

It sounds silly at first, but it makes sense. Many recipes will tell you how long to cook the chicken. In time you will learn by listening: When the chicken is cooked through, the sizzle sound will start to lessen. That's the moment to take it out.

The sizzle is the steam hitting the fat. The steam is produced when moisture in the chicken reacts to the heat.

You want to take out the chicken before all the moisture is gone.

The hot fat gives you a crisp crust. *Removing the chicken* while it's still sizzling assures an almost-greaseless crust outside and moist chicken inside. In a word – perfect.

So now I knew about the sizzle, but I still had a host of other questions. Did the chicken need to be deep-fried or would pan-frying do? How should I bread the chicken pieces?

Did I need a special pan? What kind of fat?

TO have sizzle, you must have hot fat. So you should choose a fat that has a high smoking point – you need a high temperature to get a crisp crust. Southern recipes traditionally use lard, but many now call for peanut oil or vegetable shortening.

Fowler recommends against vegetable shortening – it has a lower smoking point than most vegetable oils. Chicken cooked in shortening will end up being cooked at lower temperatures, which means more fat absorption and greasier chicken.

Fowler suggests using peanut oil, and it worked wonderfully. Peanut oil has a high smoking point and will withstand the high heat. In addition, it doesn't impart any unwanted flavor to the chicken.

Keep in mind that you will have to closely monitor the temperature of whatever fat you use. So a reliable candy/deep-fat thermometer in your frying pan is essential.

Also, adding the cold chicken pieces lowers the temperature of the fat in the pan, so it pays to keep the thermometer in the fat and periodically check it. Adjust the heat under the pan up or down as needed.

But whatever fat you choose, don't try to save it for another day. "Once you've used the fat, it's contaminated with protein and sugar that cause overbrowning," explains Corriher. And overbrowning is what prompts you to pull the chicken out of the fat before it's cooked through.

FAST-FOOD restaurants often deep-fry their chicken and it tastes great, but most home recipes call for frying in a shallow pan.

"People are afraid to deep-fry at home," says John Martin Taylor, author of *The Fearless Frying Cookbook* (Workman, 1997). "But it's easy. All you need is a deep pot, a thermometer and clean oil." A pot filled with enough oil to completely cover the chicken pieces should be deep enough so that the oil never fills the pot more than halfway.

Or you may choose a deep-fat fryer – a special pot made just for frying. Because it runs on a thermostat, you won't need to monitor it as closely – the pot will keep the oil at whatever temperature you set.

Whether cooked in a deep pot or a special fryer, deep-fried chicken will get crisper than pan-fried and will stay crisp longer. For picnic chicken, it's the way to go.

But for eating the chicken hot at home, Taylor likes to pan-fry. He covers the pan for the first 10 minutes of the cooking time. "It's a bit greasier than deep-frying, but the chicken is delicious this way." I tried it, and even though I found it extremely scary to cover a pan filled with hot fat, I loved the results. The chicken was very moist.

Any good-quality deep pot will work for deep-frying, but pan-frying is different. People swear by cast-iron pans.

They take a long time to heat up and conversely, a long time to cool down. This means that the fat will stay at a more-constant temperature in cast iron than in conventional aluminum or stainless-steel pans. And when you're frying, even temperatures are exactly what you want.

THERE are dozens of fried-chicken variations, but the basic recipe involves simply washing and drying the chicken pieces then coating them with seasoned flour. And the chicken is pretty good this way, especially deep-fried. The skin gets crisp and the meat inside is moist. It's also fast, easy and not very messy.

Just heat the fat and carefully, using tongs, put the floured chicken pieces into the fat. Tongs are essential: Use them to move the chicken in and out of the fat.

If you're used to fast-food chicken, you'll probably prefer more crust. You can use a batter to coat the chicken, which, as Fowler points out, "was considered the nicest and most elegant breading for fried chicken in the South for many years."

I preferred soaking and dredging to using a batter. The batter produced a coating that I thought might be better on onion rings, but it's a matter of personal preference.

In fact, apart from the basics of cooking fried chicken – coat the chicken, keep the fat hot and don't cook past the sizzling point – the rest is up to you. Cooks have their own little tricks. Cracker crumbs, crushed cornflakes and chopped nuts can all be used instead of seasoned flour.

Various spices can be added to the flour. And that's only the beginning. Chicken is fried many different ways around the world.

Like all cooking, it's about experience – trying and trying again. Anderson has burned herself out of lots of foods by testing and retesting recipes, but fried chicken isn't one of them. "It's the one food I just can't get enough of." And hard as it to believe, you really will learn to listen to the chicken.

Additional Tips:

– Have a wire cooling rack set over a rimmed baking pan ready. As you take the chicken pieces out of the fat, place them on the rack. Any excess oil will drain away from the chicken and onto the baking pan.

– If you are cooking the chicken in batches, keep the finished pieces warm in a low (100° or less) oven.

– To reheat fried chicken, heat clean oil to 190°. Carefully lower the pieces into the oil, frying them until just warmed through, one or two minutes.

– Whether frying or refrying, be careful: The fat is very hot. Do not leave it unattended. Wear long sleeves. And move the chicken gently in and out of the fat. Never use your hands. Always use long-handled tongs.

REAL SOUTHERN DEEP-FRIED CHICKEN

I'm not about to say how many people one little chicken will feed, but if you fry only one, you'll not have leftovers.

1 frying chicken cut into 8-10 pieces, with skin
Oil for deep-frying
1 cup flour
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
½ tsp. cayenne pepper or paprika

Wash the chicken with cold water, drain it well and pat it completely dry. Put enough oil in a large heavy pot to totally cover the chicken pieces (they should float in the fat). Place the pot over medium-high heat, and heat it to 190°C. Place a wire rack on a baking sheet and set it aside.

Combine the flour, salt, black pepper and cayenne in a heavy paper bag and shake to mix. Add the chicken pieces 1 at a time, shaking to coat.

When the fat reaches 190°, use tongs to lower the chicken into the fat 1 piece at a time. Do not crowd the pot, and keep the temperature steady.

Fry the chicken, turning the pieces, if necessary, so they brown evenly, until it is golden brown and tender, about 20 mins. (depending on the size of the pieces). As they are done, transfer the chicken pieces to the wire rack. Use a slotted spoon or a wire mesh strainer to remove any debris from the fat; then continue frying the rest of the chicken.

Serve hot, warm or at room temperature.

(Serves 3-4)

SOUTHERN BATTER-FRIED CHICKEN

This recipe is from Fried Chicken: The World's Best Recipes From Memphis to Milan, From Buffalo to Bangkok *by Damon Lee Fowler. Batter-fried chicken is not as common as it used to be in the South, but it was once considered the most elegant way of frying a chicken.*

Traditionally, this chicken is pan-fried, but I find it easier to deep-fry batter-coated food.

1 cup flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt, plus additional for soaking chicken
ground white pepper to taste
freshly grated nutmeg to taste
1 large egg
1½ cups water
1 small frying chicken, skinned and cut up for frying
peanut or other oil, for frying

Sift the flour, baking powder, 1 tsp. salt, several liberal grindings of white pepper and a few generous gratings of nutmeg into a mixing bowl. In a separate bowl, beat *the egg until it is foamy, then beat* in the water. Make a well in the center of the flour mixture and pour in the egg-water mixture. Gradually whisk the flour into the liquid until it forms a smooth batter. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 mins.

Wash the chicken under cold running water and put it in a large glass or stainless-steel bowl. Add a very small handful of salt and enough cold water to cover the chicken completely. Toss until the salt is dissolved and then set aside to soak for 30 mins.

Preheat the oven to about 90°. Fit a wire cooling rack over a cookie sheet. Fill a Dutch oven or deep-fat fryer with enough oil to come halfway up the sides of the pan.

Over medium-high heat, bring the fat to 190° (hot but not smoking). Meanwhile, drain the chicken and pat it dry. Lightly stir the batter.

Add the chicken to the batter, coating it completely.

Beginning with the dark-meat pieces, lift the chicken out 1 piece at a time, letting the excess batter flow back into the bowl. Then slip the batter-covered pieces into the fat.

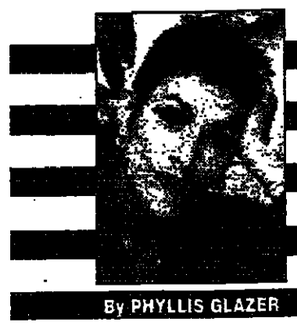
Repeat until the pot is full but not crowded. Fry until lightly browned and well sealed, about 5 mins.

Reduce the heat. Fry the chicken, turning only once, until it is cooked through and golden brown, about 20 mins. longer.

Lift the chicken from the fat, letting the fat drain from it completely, and transfer it to the wire rack. If you are frying a second batch, place the cooked chicken in the warm oven until all of the chicken is fried. Serve hot or at room temperature.

(Serves 3-4)

(The Washington Post)



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Phyllis's Tips

Brownies (Good)

Osem has just released real American-style brownies that are just like you make them at home but with a preservative. To inaugurate the brownies, the company is offering a raffle, first prize of which is a trip to New York.

Any consumer buying any of Osem's "Habayit" cakes can call (03) 765-1177, answer a few short questions, keep the package and participate in one of 10 trips for two to the Big Apple on Tower Air. The raffle will be held on April 18. You can choose any date to fly until December 31, 1999.

The price of the new brownies is NIS 14.95 for 450 gr.

Puzzle Deal (Okay)

Osem is offering a special deal for consumers of its "Bayit Ham" soups: A kit with two of the same "Bayit Ham" soups plus a good-size puzzle drawn by the artist Ami Rubinger, famous for his wit and whimsy. There are two different puzzles, each with 204 pieces that make up a 34x24 cm puzzle.

The deal applies to Tomato Soup with Pasta, Chicken Soup with Noodles, Rich Vegetable Soup, Rich Mushroom Soup and Rich Onion Soup. The contents of the soup packets have been increased by 30% with no price change.

The cost of the puzzle package plus soups is NIS 14.20. It's a good deal if you like the soups.

Tal ve Tari Tomato Juice (Good)

You can't make a good Bloody Mary without good tomato juice, and now a new and quite tasty one is made by Tal ve Tari, manufacturers of canned tomatoes, tomato paste and other tomato products. The company also supplies raw materials to Sainsbury and Heinz in Britain, and Kagumi, a Japanese concern.

The new juice juice is 100% natural, and not made from concentrate. Recommended price: NIS 5 per carton (biodegradable – better ecological choice than bottled or canned).

Here's their recipe for a Bloody Mary:

100 ml tomato juice
50 ml vodka
2-3 drops of Tabasco sauce
Worcestershire sauce to taste
1 tsp. lemon juice
black pepper to taste.

Tupperware for Kids (Good)

Next to the Avon lady, Americans can tell you that at-home sales of Tupperware are an American institution. Although the company sells in many countries throughout the world, they've been pleasantly surprised at the tremendous success of Tupperware in Israel. Now that there are more Tupperware hostesses in Israel than ever before, the company has decided on a little PR to encourage sales.

Their latest venture is into a line of Disney cups, storage boxes, dishes and lunch boxes designed for kids. Among the line: A lunch box sells for NIS 72; canteen with a hermetic seal NIS 50; a make-your-own popsicle maker NIS 45; cups with tops, NIS 21; and a child's eating-utensil set, NIS 11.

The lunch boxes are good for kindergartners, but are too bulky for schoolchildren to take to school along with their heavy backpacks. They may be handy for school trips.

The sturdy plastic containers with well-stamped design and hermetic seals are handy to have around, if you want to refrigerate unfinished beverages.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Are you familiar with a hot spice mix known as s'hug? My brother in New York state has requested the list of ingredients that go to make this up. Would you be able to find a recipe for this condiment? He has even searched the Internet.

– Leslie Smith, Kfar Sava

I used to have a recipe for *s'hug* from an old Yemenite restaurant, but since I can't find it, I'll have to share with you a similar one that I found in *Spices* by Jill Norman:

2 small mild red peppers
2-3 fresh red chilies
a handful of coriander leaves
1½ Tbsp. ground coriander
6 cloves garlic
seeds from 6 green cardamoms
1-2 tsp. lemon juice

Finely chop the red peppers and chilies, removing the seeds. Chop the coriander leaves. Blend or pound all the ingredients to a paste and store in a jar in the refrigerator for up to two weeks.

Could you possibly furnish us with the telephone number of O.K. Importers in Ramat Gan? We are desperate for an all-gas stove.

– Michaela Gorodetzer, Jerusalem

The number you're looking for is (03) 570-7191. O.K. is located on 16 Hakishon Street, Bnei Brak. I personally would never buy a non-gas stove top (except as a back-up), although I believe in electric (turbo) ovens.

Remember that when you bake with gas, you have to switch the baking pans on the shelves for uniform baking (like when you're baking cookies). The turbo keeps the heat even throughout the oven and there is no need to switch top-to-bottom/bottom-to-top.

My husband and I suffer from both diabetes and high cholesterol, and would like to learn how to substitute oil for margarine and artificial sweeteners for sugar, but my substitutions don't always work out. Can you recommend a book that could help us, or give us a recipe for cookies that is appropriate?

– Yehudit Gershon, Kfar Hanagid

The substitution of oil for margarine or butter works best with cakes rather than cookies, and since sugar contributes not only sweetness but also texture to baked goods, it's no wonder that you've had a problem.

I suggest you contact the Israel Diabetes Association, (03) 573-2445. Through them you can get a book on cooking with a few recipes for baked goods. The book *L'lo Sucar* also sells in bookstores for NIS 95, but it is less expensive if you get it through them (with a discount for members – NIS 80).

Phyllis Glazer can be contacted c/o The Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000, or by e-mail: phyllisfood@jpost.co.il.

Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine *on Fridays.*

Brighten up Brussels sprouts

By RUSS PARSONS

Brussels sprouts are never going to win any popularity contests. They're the weak member of the vegetable pack, the one everyone likes to pick on.

Brussels sprouts are weird-looking, like miniature cabbages. Maybe that's why they're usually shoved away in some dark corner of the produce market.

Unlike broccoli, which is also weird-looking but seems to be in your face every time you turn around, they'll never gain acceptance merely through familiarity.

What's more, brussels sprouts are ugly and they smell bad.

Well, that's not exactly accurate. To be more precise: When brussels sprouts are overcooked, they turn olive drab and smell like sulfur.

Here's why those unpleasant things happen:

Like all cruciferous vegetables, brussels sprouts are high in chemical compounds that, when exposed to heat for a sufficient amount of time, produce hydrogen sulfide (as a general rule, any chemical compound with the word sulfur in it is going to smell very bad).

Cabbage does it (quite famously, if you read period novels about Irish tenements in New York). Cauliflower does it.

Broccoli will do it, too, if it's cooked long enough.

The color change is related to the smell. Technically, Brussels sprouts are high in chlorophyll-b, which when heated turns into pheophytin-b. Chlorophyll-b is bright yellowish green. Pheophytin-b is not. (Chlorophyll-a, which is blue-green, similarly turns to pheophytin-a.)

This change happens especially quickly when the chlorophyll is heated in the presence of an acid – and most green vegetables give off acid during the cooking process.

For this reason, never cook green vegetables with the lid on. The moisture that condenses on the underside of the lid will be highly acidic and will ruin the vegetables.

Incidentally, this is also a straightforward process. Before the color begins to degrade in the heating process, just minutes after the air within the plant cells is driven off, the chlorophyll is more apparent.

These factors are true for all cruciferous vegetables, but they're extreme in brussels sprouts. In the first place, people don't cook them often enough to gain the kind of experience necessary to work around their little quirks.

Furthermore, because they're such dense little cabbages, even good cooks sometimes feel the need to overcook them to pulverize them.

That's a recipe for disaster. More than that, it's a shame and a sin against what is one of the more interesting vegetables available in winter.

By treating brussels sprouts with the respect they deserve, it takes a little more care in preparation and a little more attention to detail, but the payoff will be amazing.

BEGIN by shopping for the smallest sprouts you can find. These will cook the fastest and have the sweetest flavor.

When you're getting them ready for cooking, be sure to remove any dark or damaged outer leaves and trim away the dark, dried-out base.

Cut a small X through the base, about 1 cm deep, depending on the size of the sprout. This will allow the heat to penetrate to the heart of the sprout, but still hold it together enough that you don't wind up with a lot of loose leaves.

Never cook sprouts more than 7 minutes during the initial heating.

I prefer to steam mine and, after 7 minutes, you can easily see the change from sweet cabbage to sulfur. If you would rather blanch the sprouts in boiling water, make sure there is plenty of acid to offset any acids given off during cooking.

Doing these simple things will give you brussels sprouts that are sweet and crunchy-tasting and that have a beautiful range of bright green colors, from fairly dark at the outside to stunning yellow at the center.

What you do with them after that is up to you, of course.

They're delicious simply dressed with olive oil and a little chopped garlic. But they also are assertive enough to hold their own in the company of more emphatic flavors.

Pair brussels sprouts with smoky things like smoked meat or cold cuts.

And when you're using smoked meat, it's usually a good idea to add something sharp, like vinegar, to cut the fat.

BRUSSELS SPROUTS AND SMOKED MEAT

1 lb. brussels sprouts
100 gr. smoked meat
2 tsp. red wine vinegar
salt to taste
¼ cup pine nuts, toasted

Trim brussels sprouts, removing any outer leaves that are too dark or are damaged. Trim dried-out base of sprouts and cut a small X in base (about 1 cm).

Steam sprouts over rapidly boiling water just until tender, about 7 minutes, no longer than 10 minutes. Cool and cut into lengthwise quarters. Set aside.

While sprouts steam, cut meat into thin strips. Cook in skillet over medium-low heat, until crisp. Raise heat to high and add red wine vinegar. Cook until the raw, raw smell, about 3 minutes.

Remove heat and add sprouts. Toss thoroughly seasoning to taste with salt and 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar if necessary.

Add pine nuts, stir and serve. (4 servings)

(Los Angeles Times)



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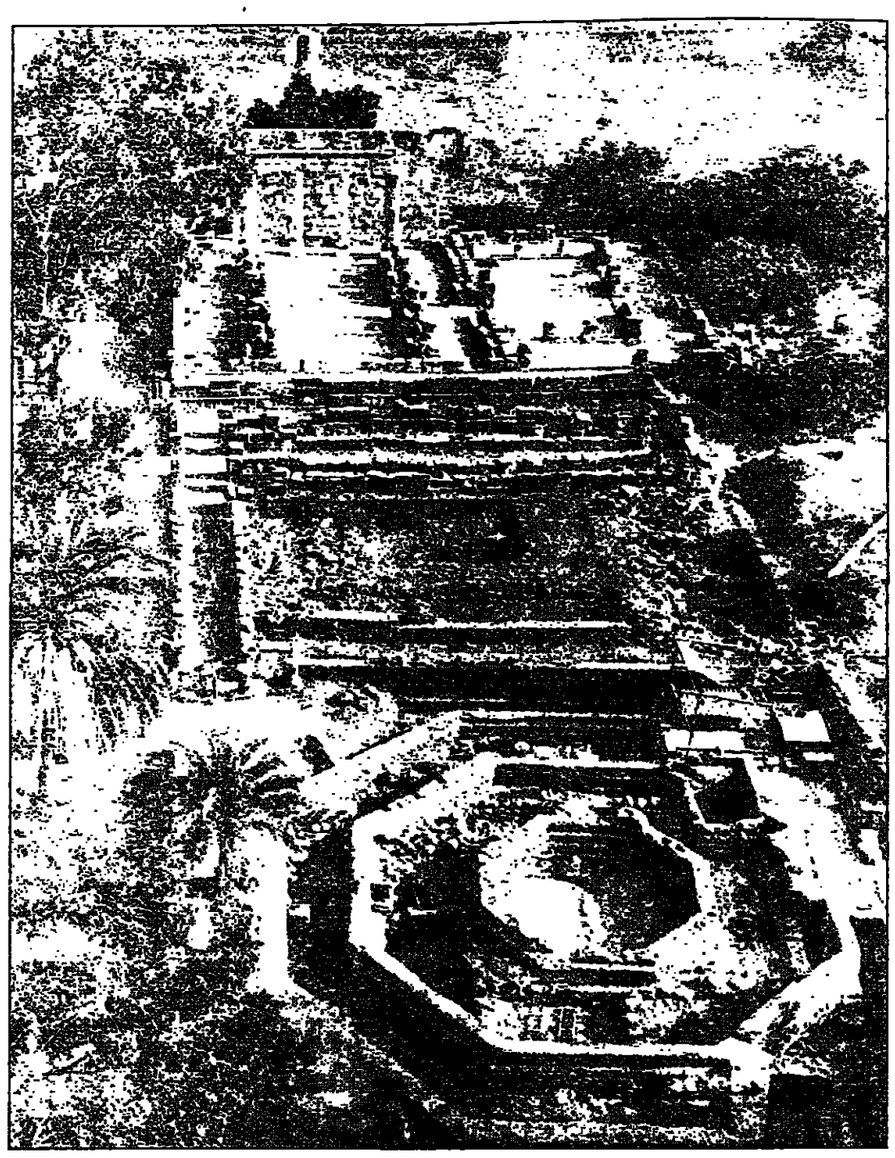
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Biking by the lake

Weekender Travel



Completing the 55-km. track around Lake Kinneret sometimes feels like an uphill battle. (Richard Press)



The ruins of a 5th-century octagonal church cover the site at Capernaum. (David Rubinger)

By VIVA SARAH PRESS

Our plan was to cycle the 55 km. around Lake Kinneret before the summer heat set in.

I am extremely out of shape and had my doubts as to whether I would be able to complete the ride (four hours, not counting sightseeing stops).

But I set out, nonetheless, with three others on a sunny Friday.

As long as it didn't rain, we reasoned, we'd be okay.

Sandwiched between the rolling green hills of the Golan and the shimmering blue water, the road around the lake is very picturesque. We passed banana groves, avocado orchards and rows of brilliantly colored purple, orange and red bougainvillea.

Our mountain bikes, rented for NIS 35 each from a Tiberias hostel, helped us plow over the gravel shoulders and dirt patches along those parts of the highway under construction.

Embarrassingly, it took me about four hours to bike to Kibbutz Ein Gev, just over half way, or 30 km. from Tiberias.

There are no photographs to prove I actually rode my bike at least halfway around the lake. There are, however, pictures of me beside my bike, pushing it up a hill, and posing at Capernaum.

Though I did not make it around the lake in its entirety, the trail I managed to cover was scenic and interesting – a very enjoyable ride.

OUR first stop after leaving Tiberias and heading clockwise around the lake was Tabgha. Here the Church of the Primacy of St. Peter marks the spot where Jesus made Peter the "Shepherd of his People."

The church is built around a rock said to be the table of a feast described in the gospel of John in the New Testament.

The story goes that Peter led the apostles on a fishing trip just offshore from Tabgha. A man – who they later found out was Jesus – shouted to them to throw their nets over the starboard.

As soon as the nets hit the water, a school of fish swam in. When Peter got to shore, he found Jesus preparing a meal for the 12 apostles.

The site, just off the main highway surrounding the lake, is well kept; entrance to the church is free.

We spent about 15 minutes looking around before a swarm of tourists descended from their tour bus. Back on our bikes, we rode two km. to Capernaum for another site-seeing stop.

Capernaum, Kfar Nahum in Hebrew, is said to be the birthplace of Peter. The ruins of a 5th-century octagonal church cover the site, believed to be where Peter's house once stood. This site is unique because it is the only place where a church and synagogue stood side by side; considering the tension between Jews and Christians under Byzantine rule, their proximity seems remarkable.

The church served as a meeting place for believers during Christianity's formative years. One hundred and thirty-one inscriptions in Greek, Aramaic, Syrian, and Latin, many including Jesus's name, have been discovered in the plaster. The church is the only building in Kfar Nahum found with a mosaic floor, a fragment of which is on display.

In the 7th century, the town was apparently abandoned and the site forgotten until the Franciscans bought the land in the late 19th century. They excavated and restored the synagogue and the church; recently they built the modern octagonal church over the site of St. Peter's house.

Capernaum, a five-minute ride off the main road, is situated amid beautifully manicured gardens. Modest dress is required, and there is an entrance fee.

There are actually four major Christian sites in this area. The other two, which we did not check out, are the Mount of Beatitudes and the Church of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes, where Jesus is said to have given his Sermon on the Mount. Today a church marks the site. The Church of the Multiplication boasts a mosaic relating how Jesus fed 5,000 pilgrims with only five loaves and two small fish (Matthew 15:29-30).

WHILE an experienced cyclist would surely shrug indifferently at the inclines along the highway, my shins and knees did much more than that. The ride, while mostly flat, has ascents and descents (the latter great fun to ride down).

By Dugit Beach, the first of many beaches lining the eastern shoreline, my knees started to buckle. We stopped at a gas station/kiosk for lunch and a rest.

Realizing I was not going to make it back to Tiberias, we split up. My brother, Richard, and our friend, Seiji, set out at a faster pace to finish the circle of the Kinneret. My future sister-in-law, Marlane, and I slowed down and biked to Kibbutz Ein Gev, where we had planned to take the ferry back to Tiberias.

Unfortunately, we missed it. While in the summer ferries make a regular run between the kibbutz and Tiberias, winter service is irregular, usually limited to large groups.

WE could have called the hostel to come and get us, since all the hostels that rent bikes – which is most of them – also offer to pick up stranded cyclists (the going rate for a pickup being NIS 60). But we opted to wait for my brother, and rode into Kibbutz Ein Gev.

The kibbutz, situated between *the Golan Heights and the eastern* shores of Lake Kinneret, has a famous fish restaurant and sailing club. We picked a nice grassy spot overlooking the water and collapsed for about an hour.

During the drive back to Tiberias, the sun was setting over the water, and the Golan Heights were a bright shade of red. Although my body was aching, the day had been an exciting adventure, one I wouldn't have missed.

Bicycles can be rented from most hostels for NIS 35-60 per day. Hostel Aviv, Nahum Hostel and the Maman hostel are well stocked. Nahum Hostel also rents tandem bicycles.



The Church of the Primacy of St. Peter is built around a rock said to be the table of a feast described in the gospel of John in the New Testament.

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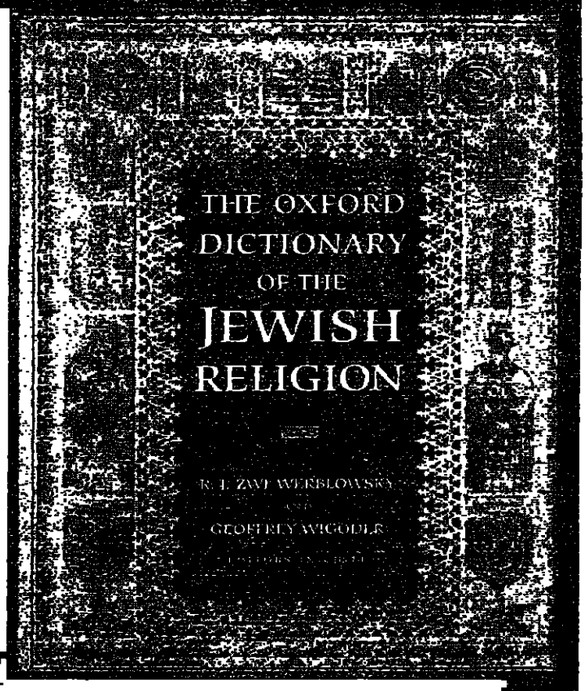
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Weekender Leisure



The Israeli male, circa 2000

Flair

By GREER FAY CASHMAN



Many people who watch those fast-paced, nonstop fashion shows on TV are frustrated by the fact that they get only the vaguest idea of style, and absolutely no conception of detail.

But unless you're sitting in the front row of a live fashion show, you won't get to see much more than you do on TV. With the models often dancing or moving rapidly in time to the music, it's a miracle that you can even determine skirt length, let alone detail like pin-tucking.

Men's fashion shows are even worse, because the range of garments is that much smaller. So all you get is a bunch of models moving quickly up and down the runway, doing very little to demonstrate revolutionary changes in revers on jackets, and even less to indicate that pants might be cuffed, or otherwise.

It's a far cry from the fashion shows you see in reruns of 1950s movies, where the models move gracefully among the viewers, allowing them to take note of silhouette shapes and reach out and feel the texture of the fabrics.

WHICH is why the recent showing of the Bagir summer collection at Tel Aviv's Country Club was such a delightful surprise.

A runway? Quick struts? There weren't any.

Instead, men of varying ages and hirsuteness clustered in twos, threes, fours and fives in various parts of a huge room. They looked perfectly at ease in their Pierre Balmain, Passport and Bagir total look or mix-and-match suits.

Curiously, all the suits were single-breasted, though, according to Bagir general manager Moshe Langleib, double-breasted suits will be a hit for winter 2000.

Bagir, which is now owned by Clal, is undergoing a whole new strategy and concept. The company has divested itself of its retail stores. These, while maintaining the original parent company's Polgat name, have been taken over by Kitan.

While Kitan does stock Bagir suits and separates in its Polgat stores, it's no longer a given. Bagir has to compete with all the other labels on the market.

THE most prestigious of Bagir's three brand names is Pierre Balmain, a finely tailored French design whose style and quality of fabric exude quiet luxury. Bagir has the local franchise for manufacturing Pierre Balmain and hopes to convince Israeli yuppies that clothes do indeed make the man.

Passport is more softly tailored than Pierre Balmain, hovering somewhere between casual and formal, while Bagir features classic tailoring which can be easily adapted to a less formal look.

Since it's now become very fashionable to wear a tee-shirt with a suit rather than a shirt and tie, said designer Deganit Jitomerski, suit jackets are buttoning higher than they used to – not to hide the tee-shirt, but to give it more focus.

No one really takes much notice of a tee-shirt when you can see a lot of it, Jitomerski explained. But when there's just a little of it rising from a high buttoned vest or jacket, it becomes an instant attention-getter.

Although there were a few white shirts, the trend was toward tone-on-tone to blend with grey, beige, brown, navy and black.

The Pierre Balmain suit, said Langleib, is for the cosmopolitan man who wants to exude a Parisian aura.

Bagir is the suit that gives pride to men who want to wear Made in Israel, while Passport, he declared, is ushering in a revolution in yuppiedom.

"The generation that not so long ago wore Levi's will eventually become the first-class passengers on airlines, and will dress differently," he predicted.

"Their clothes will be more worldly, more urbane, more colorful. Many young people today have the wherewithal to spend NIS1,500-NIS 2,000 for a suit. It's great for their image."

Added Yehiam Saguy, Bagir's local marketing manager: "The tailored suit was something psychologically difficult for Israelis to attain. We want to demonstrate that you can wear a tailored suit and feel good in it."

Judicious buying in terms of color coordination can provide several options for a relatively modest outlay.

For instance, a light-colored jacket with one pair of matching pants, one pair of dark pants and a patterned vest incorporating both the light and dark colors can just about keep a man going for the whole summer.

It's largely a given that as the Israeli male moves into the 21st century, he will look a whole lot better than his forebears.







Bridge

'Chess thinking' at the bridge table

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South deals
North-South vulnerable

North
♠9 8
♥J 9 5 3
♦A K 5
♣A J 8 6

West (Rosenberg)
♠A J 7 3
♥K 10 7 4 2
♦Q 7 2
♣5

East
♠5
♥Q 6
♦10 9 8 4 3
♣10 9 4 3 2

South
♠K Q 10 6 4 2
♥A 8
♦J 6
♣K Q 7

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	pass	2 ♣	pass
3 ♠	pass	4 ♦	pass
4 ♠	(all pass)		

Michael Rosenberg of New York, the winner of the 1998 World Par Contest held in Lille, France, has written a four-part series on his experiences for *Bridge Today Magazine* (which I publish). Par contests require chess-like strategy – the contestant must play all 13 tricks in his head to envision the end-position. You are given the declarer's hand and dummy and assured that the East-West cards are set up so that if you play the hand technically perfectly, you'll make the contract.

As a young man in London, Rosenberg was a chess enthusiast and rubber bridge player. He sat West on today's deal from a game at Stefan's Club.

See if you can figure out his winning opening lead, based on "chess" thinking.

The bidding was standard Acol, where South had to jump on his second turn to force. Modern tournament players would rebid only two spades with the South cards, because the two-spade rebid is forcing in most systems. The four-diamond bid by North was a cue-bid, a slam try in spades, which South rejected. Now let's examine West's opening lead.

Most players would lead their singleton: the five of clubs. Rosenberg considered this lead and imagined the scenario. Declarer would win and play a trump to the queen and ace. West must then find an entry to his partner's hand. The best he could hope for from partner would be a queen, perhaps the queen of hearts. To reach East in hearts, West must shift to the king of hearts.

If declarer wins the ace and drives out the jack of spades, West can play another heart to East and get his club ruff. But declarer will see the club ruff coming and counter by allowing the king of hearts to win the trick.

On this reasoning, Rosenberg found the winning opening lead. He led the king of hearts before the club! The layout was exactly as he imagined. The unsuspecting declarer won the opening lead, played a diamond to the king and a spade to his queen. Rosenberg won the ace and now shifted to a club.

Declarer won and played a spade to West's jack. But Rosenberg triumphantly led the deuce of hearts to East, who returned a club for the setting trick.

Matthew Granovetter can be reached by e-mail at matt@bridgetoday.com

Chess

Ivan the genial

By NIGEL SHORT

IN MAY 1997, at the invitation of Her Majesty's Ambassador to Bosnia, Charles Crawford, I found myself, along with Jon Speelman, in Sarajevo giving a couple of charity simultaneous exhibitions.

On the free day, the ruddy-faced father of the Bosnian grandmaster Ivan Sokolov kindly proposed to take me round the poignantly beautiful capital, an offer I accepted gladly. We set off early with Ivan, who had briefly returned to his native city to visit his parents, acting as interpreter.

We toured the former battle fronts, the cemeteries, the pock-marked buildings, the devastated Olympic ice-skating rink and some other sites before Mr Sokolov senior suggested we stop for a drink. I glanced at my watch; it was not even 11 o'clock in the morning.

"I'm quite all right at the moment, thank you," I replied naively. This was duly relayed to Mr Sokolov, and a conversation ensued in Serbo-Croat for a short while before Ivan turned to me and said, "My father says he doesn't care what you want; he's stopping for a drink." My recollections of the rest of the day are a little bit hazy but, if I am not mistaken, that was the end of the sightseeing.

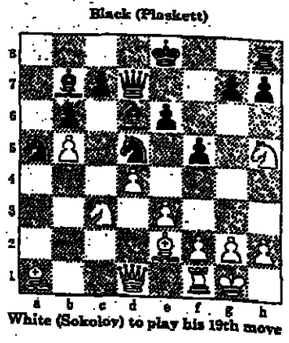
It was a joy to see Ivan, a genial soul who shares his father's fondness for the occasional tipple, winning the traditional Hastings tournament this year with an impressive score of 7/9, two points, no less, ahead of the rest of the field. He is an original character who remained living on separate continents to his wife after their marriage in 1995.

He is also a gifted, if somewhat erratic, player who can add this triumph to an exceptional performance in the Dutch Championship (he has been resident in Holland for several years) and a strong showing in Sarajevo in 1998. Witness this uncompromising fight from the final round with another wild and creative spirit, Mr Harold James Plaskett.

White: Ivan Sokolov
Black: James Plaskett
Hastings, Jan 7, 1999

1. d4 e6 2. c4 b6. An English speciality which invites the (probably advantageous) occupation of the centre with 3. e4 3. Ne3. Ducking the challenge. 3. ...Bb4 4. e3 Bb7 4. ...Bxc3+ looks like the right move, doubling the pawns while the opportunity exists. 5. Nge2 f5 6. a3 Bd6. An artificial looking retreat which is a direct consequence of the previous inaccuracy. 7. b4 Nf6 8. c5 Be7 9. Nf4 g5 10. Bb2 axb4 11. axb4 Rxa1 12. Bxa1 Nc6!? Plaskett understands that it would be a mistake to allow White to consolidate his space advantage. 13. b5 Na5 14. c6. Exceedingly aggressive. 14. ...Bc8 15. cxd7+ Qxd7 16. Be2 Bd6 17. Nh5. Aiming for a tactical blow on the g7 square. 17. ...Nd5 18. 0-0 Bb7. (*See diagram*) 19. e4! A brave decision. White intends to energise his semi-dormant cleric on a1 at the cost of a pawn. 19. ...fxe4. Acquiescing to an inferior position. For better or worse it was better to plunge headlong into the complications with, for example, 19. ...Nxc3 20. Bxc3 A) or 20. ...Bxe4 21. d5 e5 22. f3 Bxd5 23. Nxg7+! (23. Qxd5 Bc5+ 24. Qxc5 bxc5 25. Bxa5 is less impressive.) 23. ...Qxg7 24. Qxd5. With two bishops and light square control White has superb compensation. B) 20. ...fxe4 21. d5 e5 22. Bg4 Qf7 23. Be6 Qg6 24. f4!? Rf8 25. f5 Qg5 26. Bxa5 bxa5 27. b6 and White obtains the very nasty threat of Qa4+ although resistance is by no means at an end. 20. Nxe4 0-0 21. Bg4 Qxb5? It was essential to try to cover the vulnerable e6 square, the linchpin of the Black position, with something like 21. ...h6 bringing a rook to e8 and a bishop to c8 if necessary. Perhaps, he was concerned about a knight sacrifice on c5, but at least that would entail a considerable degree of risk for White. 22. Bxe6+ Kh8 23. Re1 23. Qg4?? Qxf1+ 24. Kxf1 Ne3+ is the sort of cheap trick that one might hope for against a lesser player. 23. ...Bb4 24. Qg4 g6 25. Qg5! The king is simply too denuded to be saved. 25. ...Bxe1 26. Qe5+ Rf6 27. Nexf6 Ne4 28. Qxe1. Oh dear. 28. ...gxh5 29. Bd7. Black resigns. After 29. ...Qb4 mate follows swiftly. 30. Qe8+ Kg7 31. Nxh5+ Kh6 32. Qe6+ Kxh5 33. g4+ Kg5 34. h4+ Kxb4 35. Qb6.

Black (Plaskett)



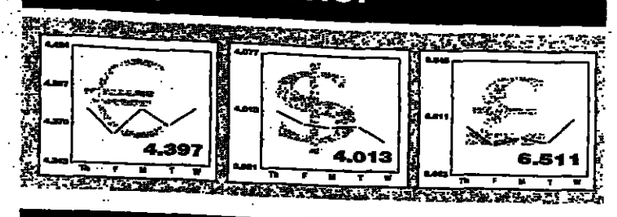
White (Sokolov) to play his 19th move

© Telegraph group

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Today's shekel



In brief

Elron rejects chief scientist's charges

Elron Electronic Industries yesterday reacted to accusations it has misled the chief scientist, saying the company's actions were faultless. Industry and Trade Ministry chief scientist Orna Berry said earlier this week she is mulling ways to block the deal between Elron and entrepreneur Motti Zisser for the sale of Elbit Medical Imaging. Berry said that the company would be requested either to return the state funding it received for R&D projects or make a commitment to continue investing in further developing its technology. In a statement Elron said that, based upon legal opinion, it is not required to get the approval of the chief scientist for the deal.

Dan Gerstenfeld

US firm buys Oshap Technologies in $210 million share-swap deal

By NICKY BLACKBURN

SunGard Data Systems of the US has purchased Herzliya-based software group Oshap Technologies in a share-swap deal worth an estimated $210 million, it was announced yesterday.

SunGard, a specialist in computer service and application software with sales of $1.16 billion in 1998, paid $15.50 per Oshap share, a premium of nearly 50 percent on the company's traded figure of $10.50 per share.

SunGard has also offered to acquire the minority interests in Oshap's two principal holdings, Mint Technologies (98% owned by Oshap) and Decalog NV (77% owned by Oshap).

As part of the deal, SunGard will acquire control of Oshap's 1.7m. shares (18.4%) in Tecnomatix Technologies, making it a significant investor in the company, which provides computer-aided production engineering tools. Tecnomatix, which is traded on NASDAQ, was founded by the present chairman of the board, Shlomo Dovrat, who is also president and CEO of Oshap, and the son of veteran financier Aaron Dovrat of the recently split Dovrat-Shrem investment house.

In 1997 Oshap saw revenues of $19.4m., which includes the sales of all its subsidiaries. Results for 1998 have yet to be released.

SunGard's greatest interest in this deal revolves around Mint and Decalog, both of which are undergoing rapid growth and complement the US company's business.

Mint, which sells to top-tier commercial banks, brokerages, and regulatory bodies, provides software solutions for enterprise application integration. Its products, which include Mint Message Broker, Rule Manager, and Knowledge Manager, help financial institutions with information flow. The company's business partners include BEA Systems, IBM, Sun, Hewlett Packard, Compaq, Microsoft, and Nippon Steel.

Boston-based Decalog provides portfolio management and decision-support applications for asset managers. It has a strong client base in Europe, which will complement the sale of SunGard's products in the US and Britain.

"Mint will further enhance SunGard's position as a technology provider to the financial services industry," said James L. Mann, chairman and CEO of SunGard. "Enterprise application integration is the major technology issue facing financial institutions today as mergers, rationalizations and globalization continue to require rapid change in the way businesses process information.

"Decalog will strengthen SunGard's leadership position in software solutions for asset management."

Dovrat said that SunGard's global market presence, operational experience, and significant resources will help promote future growth at Mint and Decalog.

"After exploring various strategic alternatives over the last few months, we determined that the combination with SunGard represents by far the best value for our shareholders. The transaction will create significant shareholder value," he said.

Dovrat added that he will continue in his role as chairman of the board at Tecnomatix.

Because of restrictions, SunGard cannot initially sell its shares in Tecnomatix, which operates outside SunGard's area of interest.

Mann said that SunGard has no plans to increase its holding in the company, which two days ago announced a major deal with US software giant Parametric Technology Corporation, and intends to be nothing more than a supportive shareholder.

BNP in $38b. hostile bid for newly merged SocGen-Paribas

By ROBERT MCLEOD

PARIS (Bloomberg) – Societe Generale SA and Paribas SA, which just last month agreed to merge, were forced yesterday to hire investment banks to help repel a $38 billion hostile takeover bid from Banque Nationale de Paris SA.

France's No. 3 bank Tuesday night made a surprise offer to buy Societe Generale and Paribas – which announced a $15 billion merger last month – through a share swap that would create the world's largest bank, with $1 trillion of assets. Paribas retained Rothschild & Cie. and SocGen was to choose a banker by the end of the day yesterday, said two people familiar with the situation.

The hostile offer, the largest ever in European banking, and the first since Credito Italiano SpA's bid for Credito Romagnolo SpA in 1994, may spark a wave of consolidation in the French banking industry, which for years stagnated under government intervention and low profitability, say investors.

"This entire industry is going to be shaken up and reshuffled," said Michael Levy, a money manager at Bankers Trust Funds Management in New York.

BNP offered 15 of its shares for seven Societe Generale shares, a value of 165.87 euros per share, or a premium of 14 percent above Tuesday's closing share price. The bank is also offering 11 of its shares for eight Paribas shares. That values Paribas at 106.43 euros, 24% above its Tuesday close.

Rebuffed in attempts to buy a controlling stake of Credit Lyonnais SA and left out when SocGen and Paribas agreed to merge last month, the bid is make-or-break for BNP.

"BNP knows it would have missed out on getting Credit Lyonnais – it has to make an acquisition," said Alain Tchibozo, banking analyst at CPR Finances. He said BNP's move might even spark an offer for the Paris-based bank by a foreign institution such as ABN Amro NV or Deutsche Bank AG.

SocGen's acquisition of Paribas left BNP looking vulnerable. In response, BNP said it was willing to enter into a partnership with Credit Lyonnais, the French state-owned bank to be sold before July. Credit Lyonnais rejected the suggestion and instead sought out mutual bank Credit Agricole, France's largest, to be a core shareholder – a solution analysts thinks the state would favor. That left BNP alone again.

"Credit Lyonnais wasn't possible with the management in place and the government," said Baudouin Prot. BNP's managing director at a press conference yesterday. "This isn't a criticism, it's a reality. This is the beginning of a real restructuring."

A stand-alone BNP might not have been able to survive a bid from a foreign rival if it couldn't find another domestic solution, analysts said. Foreign banks have longed for access to the borrowers and savers in the world's fourth-biggest economy, but have found it closed to making any significant acquisitions.

BNP offered to keep all three banks' retail brand names and promised no mass firings of workers. BNP plans to keep Paribas' investment banking operations separate, while combining its own banking activities with those of Societe Generale.

While BNP's promises to keep jobs might appease French politicians and regulators, a reduction in the workforce will be inevitable to meet the bank's forecasts to cut costs by 8%, or 1.27b. euros, by 2002. The bank says it expects 710m. in cost cuts from combining back office operations and 460m. from shared information technology.

The merger would create a bank with 4,700 branches, giving it an 18% share of the retail banking market. The bank has 120,000 employees, giving BNP the opportunity to cut costs because many of the three banks' businesses overlap.

Axa SA, which analysts and investors consider key to the operation, said its representative on BNP's board, Jacques Friedmann, voted in favor of the bid. Axa, which is the biggest shareholder in BNP and Paribas, had previously endorsed Societe Generale's bid for Paribas – indeed Paribas chairman Andre Levy-Lang called his Axa counterpart Claude Bebear the "grandfather" of the proposed merger.

"There is a strong industrial logic in the bid, which is in the best interests of BNP shareholders," said Christophe Dufraux, a spokesman for Axa, which owns about 7% in both BNP and Paribas.

The takeover would be the second biggest in banking after NationsBank Corp.'s $42.8b. acquisition of BankAmerica Corp. last year. Olivetti, an Italian telecommunication and computer equipment company, has offered $58b. to buy Telecom Italia in Europe's biggest ever hostile takeover bid.

Shares in all three banks were suspended on the Paris bourse. BNP shares fell 1 euro to 77.4, while Societe Generale lost 2.6 to 145.5. Paribas rose 0.15 to 53.2.



A customer withdraws money from a Banque Nationale de Paris ATM machine in Paris yesterday. France's third-largest bank's bid to buy competitors Paribas SA and Societe Generale SA caught the country's two leading banks off-guard. (AP)

Study: IEC inefficiency costs NIS 1.8b. annually

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Inefficiency in the Israel Electric Corporation (IEC) results in an annual overall loss to the economy of NIS 1.85 billion, according to a study published this week by the Jerusalem-based Institute for Advanced Strategic and Political Studies.

The report quotes Prof. Daniel Tchimensky, who headed a committee to examine the electricity monopoly, as saying the state-owned company employs 3,000 more workers than necessary.

The main reason for the company's inefficiency is that most of its profits go toward paying excessive salaries, leading to a situation whereby wages add up to some 24 percent of the company's revenues, according to Yossi Borochov, the report's author.

While the average cost per worker in Israel is $2,938, the cost per average worker at the IEC is $7,678, 160% higher than the regular monthly cost of an industrial worker ($4,792).

The report further says that the high salaries are even less justified, given that clerks and semi-skilled workers comprise 73% of the company's labor force.

In addition, the company's pensioners receive extensive benefits. The report claims that a department head can advance to the position of section head and improve his benefits while he is a pensioner.

According to the report, covering the company's pension liability is expected to cost taxpayers some $167m. a year.

Moreover, company workers get free electricity at a an estimated annual cost of at least $8.5m.

The report also states that IEC workers are less efficient than their counterparts in similar electricity companies abroad. The IEC worker produces an average of 2.65m. kwh compared with 4.45 in Belgium, 3.98 in Holland, and 2.86 in Denmark.

A spokesman for the IEC said that the company had not yet received the report and therefore could not comment on it.

'98 hotel income up 5% to NIS 4.56b.

Jerusalem Post Staff

The hotel industry's overall revenues last year totaled NIS 4.56 billion, a 5 percent increase over the previous year after inflationary adjustments, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday.

The figures take into account income for non-accommodation activities, including hosting events, renting sports facilities, and leasing commercial space, but exclude income from time-sharing deals.

Some 44% of hotel revenues came from tourists using foreign currencies, thus continuing a decline trend from 1996's 51% and 1997's 48% levels. In absolute terms this figure totaled $524 million, some 3% less than the previous year.

In all, the number of tourist stays last year declined by 5% from 1997 to 7.7m.

The remainder of hotel revenues, some NIS 2.6b., came from Israeli guests, as well as tourists' payments for non-VAT-exempt services.

ISRAEL RAILWAYS

Tender No. PR/MC/01/99

For the Supply of Various Types of Monoblock Wheels

1. The Ports and Railways Authority – Israel Railways (hereinafter: "the IR"), in accordance with its obligations in regard to tendering procedures under the International Agreement on Government Procurement GATT, and according to the Israeli Tender Law, wishes to obtain bids for:

A long-term agreement, for the Supply of Nine (9) Types of Monoblock Wheels, as specified in the Technical Specifications of this Tender, for a period of three (3) years (hereinafter: the Works);

Plus an option for the supply of such wheels, for an additional period of three (3) years (hereinafter: the Option).

2. **Pre-requisites for Participation in the Tender**
   - 2:1 The bidder must be the original manufacturer of wheels or a proven authorized representative appointed by the original manufacturer.
   - 2:2 The manufacturer must comply fully, with all the requirements and terms of the Technical Specifications of the Tender.
   - 2:3 The manufacturer must have proven experience in the past three (3) years at least, in the manufacture and supply of the Works, as required in this Tender.
   - 2:4 The manufacturer must be certified for Quality Control system in accordance with the ISO 9001/9002 standard.
   - 2:5 The manufacturer shall warrant year 2000 conformity regarding this Tender, all according to the terms specified in the tender documents.
   - 2:6 The manufacturer must have resources and working procedures allowing the performance of the Works in compliance with the U.I.C. standards.
   - 2:7 The manufacturer has ongoing design and manufacturing divisions and facilities.
   - 2:8 To secure the validity of its proposal, the bidder shall submit a financial bank guarantee from a first class bank or financial institution, approved by the IR, to the order of the IR, for the amount of 100,000 USD, valid until **August 25, 1999**, as specified in the tender documents.

   Failure to comply in full with the said requirement for financial guarantee will disqualify the bid.

   The bidder is required to submit all documents and/or certificates necessary to prove his compliance with the Pre-requisites, including, if relevant, the documents proving the bidder's authorized representation of a manufacturer.
3. The deadline for submitting bids is **April 25, 1999 at 15:00** hours to Israel Railways, Tel Aviv Central Railway Station, Contracting Department, P.O.B. 18085, Tel Aviv 61180, Israel.
4. **The winning bidder will be required to commit himself to an Industrial Commercial Cooperation undertaking and, if applicable, an Offset Procurement, on the terms contained in this tender.**
5. The criteria for selection in this tender shall be:
   The commercial offer and the proposed time schedule for delivery.
6. All documents submitted in this tender must be in English.
7. The IR shall not be bound to accept the lowest-priced proposal and/or any other proposal whatsoever. In addition, the IR does not undertake herein any commitment whatsoever, to execute the acquisition of the Works and/or to enter into a contract with any of the bidders.
8. The IR reserves the right to enter into an agreement according to this tender, with more than one of the bidders, and/or for part of the Work, all according to IR convenience and sole discretion.
9. The IR reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to conduct negotiations on the final technical and commercial terms, with those bidders that shall be found suitable.
10. For any additional information, please **address in writing , Ms. Yael Tserruya,** Adv., at the address given above, by no later than **April 8, 1999**, or by Tel. 972 -3-6937558, Fax. 972-3-6937416.
11. Tender documents are available upon payment (not refundable) of NIS 1170 including VAT, to the order of "Ports and Railways Authority – Israel Railways," at the address detailed above.
12. IR tenders are published additionally on the Internet at www.israrail.org.il. In case of discrepancy between the terms of the tender in this publication and in the Internet, the terms of this publication will prevail.

222830 DG 60

BVR wins $10m. deal

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Givatayim-based BVR Systems yesterday announced that it had won a contract with its German partner BGT for the supply of Ehud simulation systems to the Italian Air Force.

The company said that BGT will act as the prime contractor while BVR, which will act as subcontractor, will receive some $10 million.

Earlier this week BVR won another $23m. contract from an unspecified NATO member.

BVR systems was established as a result of the spin-off of all defense-related business from BVR Technologies, which develops training and computer-based simulation systems.

The company offers solutions to the simulation, training, and debriefing needs of modern air, sea, and ground forces.

Banks' capital adequacy floor raised to 9%

The Bank of Israel yesterday raised commercial banks' capital adequacy requirements to 9 percent from 8 percent, effective immediately.

"This increase in minimum capital is needed in light of increased banking and financial risk... against the background of the possible impact of volatile world financial markets, including foreign currency markets," the central bank said in a statement.

It quoted Supervisor of Banks Yitzhak Tal as saying the banking system is "absolutely stable" but that banks are vulnerable to global volatility because of their foreign currency lending.

The central bank said in January forex lending by Israeli banks reached a record high of 38.3 percent of total lending at the end of 1998, or $29.8 billion.

The borrowing remains a source of concern because many borrowers are not adequately hedged.

Banking sources said that when the central bank first announced plans to raise capital adequacy requirements last month, the move was aimed principally at Bank Hapoalim, whose capital adequacy ratio fell to 8.4% after it made a special one-time dividend of NIS 1b. in the third quarter.

The payout was made after the bank's acquisition by the Ted Arison Group. Analysts said the increase in capital adequacy was apparently made to discourage further payouts by Hapoalim or other privatized banks.

Elsewhere in the banking industry only Bank Leumi and First International Bank would have met the new capital adequacy floors at the end of the third quarter, the last period for which banks have reported.

Israel Discount Bank's ratio was 8.2% and Mizrahi Bank's was 8.3%.

(Reuters)

PRIME פריים
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date:	9.3.99
Purchase Price:	124.38
Redemption Price:	122.79

MUTUAL FUNDS LEUMI Pia A Member of Bank Leumi Group

TARGET טרגט (מטרה)
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date:	9.3.99
Purchase Price:	131.21
Redemption Price:	129.37

MUTUAL FUNDS LEUMI Pia A Member of Bank Leumi Group

Dollar sinks to NIS 4.013 • TASE down on Supersol results

SHARES

TEL AVIV

Stocks fell' led by Super-Sol, which reported fourth-quarter profit, dropped 27 percent as the economy posted its slowest annual rate of growth in a decade.

The Maof fell 0.33% to 341.24 after losing 0.51% Tuesday.

Super-Sol fell 3.97% to 10.16 NIS. Israel's largest supermarket chain said fourth-quarter net income dropped 27%, as sales fell at individual stores open at least a year and expenses rose because of a new supply center. Profit fell to NIS 26.3 million, or NIS 0.12 a share, from an inflation-adjusted NIS 36.1 million, or NIS 0.17. Six analysts surveyed by Bloomberg expected earnings per share of NIS 0.13. The report also hurt retail competitor Blue Square Chain Investments and Properties, which fell 3.02% to 51.40.

Koor Industries fell 1.9% to NIS 414. Israel's biggest holding company reported it had received court approval to combine subsidiary Tadiran Telecom, with ECI Telecom Ltd., in which Koor holds a 25% stake.

Dor Energy rose 2.62% to NIS 12.52. The fuel distributor said it doubled profit last year from 1997. Net income for 1998 was NIS 25.1m., or NIS 2.11 a share, compared with earnings of NIS 12.34 million, or NIS 1.47 a share, in the same period a year earlier. Revenue was NIS 1.79 billion, compared with NIS 2.17b.

EUROPE

Britain's FTSE 100 index suffered a directionless post-budget session yesterday, overshadowed by worries of increasing anti-competitive scrutiny in certain sectors and weighed down by declining telecommunications stocks.

A drifty early performance on Wall Street failed to provide any clear lead, and only some sharp gains in the heavyweight banking sector prevented a net loss in the FTSE 100.

The index – which has struggled to make progress after hitting a record high of 6,319.8 late last month – closed up just 3.8 points or 0.06% at 6,241.5, with decliners in a narrow five to four majority over gainers.

The Dow was up some 18 points at the London market's close, while UK equity trading volume reached just over one billion shares by that time.

"The FTSE is up near uncharted territory and doesn't seem at the moment to have a lot of impetus to take it higher," said a senior equity salesman at one brokerage. "People who want to buy the market probably want to do so a bit lower down."

British Telecom and other telecom stocks were among the biggest negative influences on the FTSE 100, unsettled by proposals from regulator Oftel that could lead to cuts in the cost of Internet calls.

ASIA

Japan's benchmark stock index rose to its highest in seven months, paced by Sony Corp., as investors bet moves by companies to reorganize their operations will improve competitiveness and profits.

The Nikkei 225 average rose 383.30, or 2.5%, to 15,480.00, its highest since August 10. Sony, the world's second-largest consumer electronics company, rounded off its biggest six-day gain in 10 years as investors cheered plans, announced yesterday, to cut a tenth of its workforce and buy out three units. Other electronics companies rose on hopes they will benefit from similar moves, falling interest rates and a weaker yen.

In other markets, Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index rose 2.1%, led by HSBC Holdings Plc on expectations it could be involved in a fresh round of European bank mergers. Singapore's Straits Times Index rose 2.0% as developers may gain from a change in accounting rules. Australia's All Ordinaries index rose 0.4% as *Telstra Corp. gained on hopes it* will beat analyst estimates in its earnings report today.

Sony soared 8.3% to 11,850 yen accounting for a quarter of the Nikkei's gains. Its 36% six-day gain was the biggest since July 29, 1988. The maker of the best-selling PlayStation video game and the Wega flat-screen television plans to scale down its global production.

WALL STREET

The Dow Jones industrial average racked up its fourth record close of the year yesterday, thanks to gains in oil and banking stocks.

The Dow ended up 79.08 points, or 0.82 percent, at 9,772.84, putting the index of 30-blue chip stocks within less than 230 points of the 10,000 milestone.

In the broader market, advancing issues led declines by a small margin on active volume of 836 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Standard & Poor's 500 stock index also set a new high, rising 7 points, or 0.5%, to 1,286.84. The technology-laced Nasdaq composite index was up 13.06 points, or 0.5%, at 2,406.00.



Maof 341.24 ▼0.33%

Dow Jones 9722.84 ▲0.82%

FTSE 6241.5 ▲0.06%

Nikkei 15480 ▲2.50%

Analysts said the market would have struggled to keep its head up without the support from the oils and banks.

"It's just a directionless mixed market as investors await more information about interest rates and corporate profits," said Tony Dwyer, chief market strategist at Ladenburg Thalmann.

Wall Street was bracing for corporate earnings warnings ahead of the first-quarter reporting season, which officially starts on April 15.

Among the oil stocks, Dow components Chevron Corp. rose 3-5/16 to 83-1/3 and Exxon Corp. gained 3-4/16 to 73-3/16 after crude oil jumped 84 cents a barrel on news that major Gulf Arab producers agreed to make additional production cut in an effort to mop up a global supply glut. (Reuters)

CURRENCIES

The shekel gained another 0.45% against the dollar with the representative rate for the US currency set at NIS 4.013, thus echoing the US currency's loss of altitude in trading against the yen and the euro.

The shekel has already recovered more than 9% since it fell to an all-time-low of NIS 4.354 per dollar last October.

The dollar fell for a fourth day against the yen and a third day in four against the euro on speculation benign US inflation will keep interest rates on hold in coming months.

"Fear of an imminent rate hike, which had brought short-term buying in the dollar, has been phased out for the time being," said *Karl Halligan, chief trader at* CIC Bank New York.

Traders buy dollars when they expect a rate rise because higher rates boost the money-market return on dollar deposits.

The US currency fell as low as 119.88 yen in European trading, a one-week low, from 121.17 yen late Tuesday in New York. It was at 120.20 in morning trading. The dollar slipped to its lowest level against the euro this month and was at $1.0943 from $1.0881.

Also damping demand for dollars is concern Japanese exporters are bringing home profits from abroad to improve earnings before the fiscal year-end on March 31, traders said.

US interest-rate futures contracts that settle in June show investors anticipate three-month money market rates of 5.07% by mid-year. That is close enough to current 5.0% rates to suggest there is little expectation the Federal Reserve will raise rates by mid-year.

The futures yield is down 16 basis points in the past week, six of which came yesterday after Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan said there are "no obvious signs" of inflation accelerating even as the world's largest economy thrives.

"Comments from Greenspan quashed some of the inflation fears that have built up," said Henry Hunt, who helps oversee 6 billion pounds ($10 billion) as a director at Foreign & Colonial Investment Management in London.

COMMODITIES

METALS

Gold drifted quietly in European trade on Wednesday *after dollar weakness subdued* business in Asia, but dealers said the metal had settled into a higher range.

London gold fixed quickly at $291.50 a troy ounce in the morning, down from Tuesday afternoon's $292.95.

Spot gold was last at $291.80/$292.20, up slightly from Tuesday's New York close at $291.70/$292.20. The metal set new 11-week highs in late European business on Tuesday at $294.00, but twice failed to breach that level.

"We sense that gold may be in a new $5.00 range... with good technical support at $290.00 and resistance at $295.00," Standard Bank said in a market report posted on its webpage.

ENERGY

Crude oil for April delivery was 28 cents higher at $14.13 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange after a report that Saudi Arabia said the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will agree to a new round of oil production cuts before an OPEC meeting March 23. Agence France-Presse quoted Saudi Oil Minister Ali Naimi as saying that producers outside OPEC would be involved in the cuts as well. The comment came ahead of a meeting of Arab oil ministers in Saudi Arabia, AFP said. Gains could be restrained by concern about higher supplies, after the American Petroleum Institute late yesterday reported a greater-than-expected rise in inventories of 4.7 million barrels.

(News agencies)



Decline in Euro's value disappoints currency's boosters

WASHINGTON – When the euro was launched on the first of the year, it was billed as an immediate challenger to the worldwide prowess of the US dollar.

Instead, it has taken an embarrassing beating, falling more than 8 percent against the dollar.

In the midst of the euphoria – some called it "europhoria" – of the launch, the predictions of many European economists and public officials raised expectations that the new currency would demonstrate its strength immediately rather than over a long period of time.

That was particularly risky, since during most of 1997 and 1998 the dollar was strong against the individual currencies of the 11 European nations now using the euro: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain.

The euro began life worth $1.17. By last week, at a value of 1.08 to the dollar, the euro was only slightly above the low point of the individual currencies against the dollar over the past decade, before inching slightly higher to 1.094 to the dollar.

No official comparison can be made because the euro did not exist before the beginning of this year. However, the European Central Bank (ECB) has combined the individual currencies using the weights they have in the euro and created an artificial history for the new currency.

The history shows substantial fluctuations, with the euro reaching a high of $1.40 and a low of just under $1.05 in mid-1989, when the Berlin Wall came down.

The reasons for the euro's decline have to do with both the American and European economies. The outlook for US economic growth has improved while that of Europe, particularly Germany, the continent's largest economy, has turned increasingly sour.

Partially as a result, investors attracted by the prospect of higher returns on stocks and bonds have been buying dollars, not euros.

The differences in growth are startling. In the fourth quarter of last year the US gross domestic product grew at an inflation-adjusted annual rate of 6.1%. According to economists at Morgan Guaranty Trust Co., growth for Euroland, as the group of euro-using countries is now called, declined at a 0.5% rate while Germany's economic growth dropped at a 1.8% pace.

Meanwhile, many investors and analysts swung from expecting the Federal Reserve to reduce short-term interest rates in the US to betting the Fed would have to raise

MARKETWATCH

By JOHN M. BERRY

them to keep inflation under control.

In Europe, the spreading slowdown raised expectations that the ECB would lower rates. Rising rates tend to strengthen currencies, while dropping rates tend to have the reverse effect.

Somewhat surprisingly, in view of the pride in the euro's birth, its slide seems to have troubled few observers. None of the leaders of the principal participating countries has had much to say about the decline, and Europe's monetary authorities appear unperturbed.

The ECB council, the central bank's top policymaking group, met last Thursday and left the euro zone's base interest rate unchanged. At a news conference afterward, ECB president Wim Duisenberg said the decline of the euro so far does not worry him.

"I'm not concerned with the level that the euro has currently reached," he said. "I have already put it against the background of the levels of the [German] mark during last year, and it's not so much the level that is of some concern. If the [downward] movement were to continue, there could be cause for concern.

"We think it is predominately the strength of the dollar rather than the weakness of the euro which determines the picture. And, of course, the interest rate differentials may also have something to do with that."

As an example of those differentials, yields on 10-year US government bonds Friday were 5.27% compared with 4.03% on similar German bonds.

Some analysts believe the ECB council is not troubled by the euro's decline because it makes exports from Euroland cheaper for buyers in the US and other countries. And an increase in exports could bolster growth even without an interest rate cut.

"It's almost as if they are inviting everyone to sell their currency," an analyst said after Duisenberg spoke. "The ECB doesn't want to cut rates and undermine its credibility as an inflation-fighter, so it is prepared to see the euro fall. It suits everybody and it's driven by economic fundamentals."

Another element in the euro situation is the growing stress among policymakers as the European economic slowdown threatens to undermine the promises of benefits that would come along with the advent of the single currency. To meet the previously agreed-upon criteria for joining the monetary union, each of the nations had to reduce its government budget deficit to 3% of GDP or less.

In the view of many economists, that dose of fiscal stringency is partially responsible for slower growth, and some politicians want the ECB to cut rates to spur faster growth. Oskar Lafontaine, finance minister in the new Social Democratic government in Germany, has been outspoken in urging a cut in rates.

At the news conference, Duisenberg said the ECB was striving to keep confidence in the euro high. In an obvious reference to Lafontaine, he added, "We would certainly hope that not only the ECB, but also that politicians would help us to the maximum extent possible in supporting this confidence-building process."

(The Washington Post)

FINANCIAL MARKETS

TEL AVIV 100 – LEADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Advanced Technology Ltd.	1862.0	0.0
Africa Israel Hotels	550.0	0.0
Africa Israel Inv (1985)	22000.0	0.0
Africa Israel Inv (1985)	192000.0	1.8
Ags Industries (1983) Ltd	2010.0	-1.0
American Israeli Paper Mills	15210.0	0.2
Azorim Properties	790.0	1.0
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	3480.0	-0.6
Bezeq	1417.0	1.5
Blue Square Chain Investments and Properties Limited	5140.0	-3.0
Baran	3180.0	0.0
Dead SEA Bromine	2650.0	-1.5
Bayside Land Corp	46000.0	0.0
Bayside Land Corp	230000.0	0.0
Israel Chemicals Limited	423.0	0.0
Clal Electronics Indu Ltd.	6640.0	-0.6
Clal Israel Limited	9790.0	-0.1
Clal Industries and Investments	2160.0	0.5
Clal Insurance	3920.0	-1.0
DAN Hotels Corp. Ltd.	719.0	1.7
Delta-Galil Industries Ltd.	3980.0	-1.0
Discount Investment Corp.	13170.0	-0.7
Dankner	2160.0	0.0
Delek Automotive Systems Ltd	895.0	1.5
Delek Israel Fuel Corp. Ltd.	11490.0	-1.6
Discount Mortgage Bank Ltd.	20000.0	-1.5
Dan'an	593.0	0.0
Israel Discount Bank	397.0	1.8
Dead SEA Works Limited	930.0	-0.6
JEC	1708.0	-1.8
Elbit Ltd.	1530.0	-1.7
Elco Holdings Limited	2100.0	-2.3
Elite Industries Ltd.	3050.0	0.0
Elite Industries Ltd.	15110.0	0.2
Electra Consumer Products	3030.0	0.0
Elco Industries Ltd.	3400.0	0.0
Elron Electronic Inds	6970.0	-0.7
El-Roy (Israel) Ltd.	1768.0	0.0
Electra (Israel) Ltd.	18500.0	-0.5
Elbit Medical Imaging Ltd.	4080.0	-1.9
Elbit Systems Ltd.	5590.0	1.6
Europe Israel	2560.0	-1.6
Fibi Holdings Ltd.	3040.0	-1.3
First International Mortgage Bank Limited	36500.0	0.0
Formula Systems (1985) Ltd.	10040.0	-2.3
First International Bank Of Israel	456.0	-1.3
First International Bank Of Israel	2300.0	-1.7
Israel General Bank	9350.0	-1.5
Granite Hacarmel Investments	485.0	1.1
Hamlet (Israel-Canada) Limited	1480.0	6.5
Hadarim Propert	8850.0	4.1
Harel Insurance Investments Limited	3530.0	-1.7
Harel Insurance Investments Limited	17850.0	0.1
Home Centers (Diy) Ltd.	3890.0	0.0
Housing & Construction Holdings Limited	260.0	-1.1
Industrial Buildings Corp	538.0	0.7
IDB Development Corp. Ltd.	10000.0	-0.8
IDB Bank Holding Corp. Ltd.	9530.0	-1.3
The Israel Corp. Limited	39500.0	-0.8
The Israel Land Development	2120.0	-1.4
Isrotel Ltd.	639.0	1.4
Jakora	795.0	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Kitan Consolidated	410.0	-1.2
Knafaim	4320.0	0.0
Koor Industries Limited	41400.0	-1.9
Leumi Mortgage Bank Ltd.	74000.0	0.0
Liraz	3210.0	-0.6
Leumi Insurance Holdings	234.0	-1.3
Bank Leumi Le-Israel	679.0	0.0
Makhteshim-Agan Industries Limited	880.0	-0.8
Ma'any Holdings Ltd.	3160.0	0.0
Matav-Cable Systems Media Limited	5400.0	1.1
Mehadrin Ltd.	12300.0	-2.0
Mayanot Eden	1620.0	0.0
Mishkan Hapoalim Mortgage Bk	57000.0	-2.1
Melisron	1050.0	-0.9
Mamon Cargo Terminals & Hand	574.0	4.7
Menorah Holdings Ltd.	1771.0	0.0
United Mizrahi Bank Ltd.	790.0	-0.9
Nice Systems Ltd.	12180.0	3.7
Nitsba Holdings (1995) Limited	1500.0	0.0
Ofer Development & Investments Limited	1255.0	1.5
Ofzar Hityashuth Hayehudim	30.9	1.3
Ormat Industries	475.0	-1.0
Osem Investment Limited	1955.0	-1.5
Israel Phoenix Assurance Co	843.0	0.0
Plasson	4700.0	0.0
Poalim Investments Limited	12800.0	-0.5
Point of Sale Limited	3240.0	-0.3
Bank Hapoalim Ltd.	911.0	0.6
Property & Building Corp	35700.0	0.0
Israel Petrochemical Enterpr	2130.0	-0.9
Israel Salt Industries	1906.0	0.3
Solel Boneh Building & Infrastructure Ltd.	3840.0	-0.8
Super-Sol Limited	1016.0	-4.0
Teva Pharmaceutical	17580.0	-0.3
Tefahot Israel Mortgage Bank	19400.0	0.0
Tambour Ltd.	520.0	-1.3
Tempo	1710.0	7.9
Ytong Industries	915.0	-0.5

RETZEF – SMALL CAPITALIZATION – TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
A.M.L.D. Limited	889.0	0.0
Abjac Mazal	16	0.0
Abudi Signs Industry Ltd.	42.8	0.0
Ackerstein Industries	156.0	1.5
Ackerstein ZVI	1650.0	0.0
Ackerstein ZVI	8200.0	-1.2
Adgar Investment and Development Limited	220.0	0.0
Adgar Investment and Development Limited	20.7	0.0
Adsha Developing Investments & Promotion Ltd.	6.5	132.0
Adumim Chemicals Ltd.	310.0	0.0
Advanmech Holdings Ltd.	71.0	0.0
Afcon Control and Automation Limited	185.8	0.0
Afcon Control and Automation Limited	660.0	-2.9
Afek	204.0	0.0
Alnca Israel Hotels	79.7	0.0
AFSK	974.0	0.0
Agis Industries (1983) Ltd.	190.0	-13.6
Agri Invest Ltd.	430.0	0.0
Albac Massuot Yitzhak Limited	2420.0	0.0
Albany Bonded Limited	54.5	9.9
Al-Ban Property & Investment	142.9	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Alliance Tire Co. (1992) Ltd.	590.0	0.0
Alony Hetz Properties & Inv.	455.0	-4.2
Alony Hetz Properties & Inv.	110.0	7.8
Alumayar Ltd.	290.0	3.6
Alumit Packaging Ltd	2100.0	0.0
Amanet Management & Systems	888.0	0.0
Amagar	209.0	0.0
Analyst I.M.S.	879.0	0.0
Appicom	2360.0	2.1
Arad	1550.0	0.0
Arad Towels	1330.0	0.0
Arazim Financial Services & Investment Limited	140.0	0.0
Argaman Industries	140.0	0.5
Arieden Properties Ltd.	1212.0	0.0
Arpal Aluminum Systems Limited	135.0	0.0
Aryt Industries Ltd.	96.0	0.9
Ashkelon Plywood	488.0	5.2
Ashtel	430.0	0.0
Ashot -Ashkelon Industries Limited	299.0	10.7
Ashtrom Industries Ltd.	550.0	0.0
Ashtrom Projects	280.0	0.0
Ashtrom Projects	21.6	-28.0
Ashtrom Properties	190.0	3.5
Ashtrom Properties	17.4	0.0
Aspen Building & Development Ltd	437.0	0.0
Aspen Properties (1990) Limited	136.6	0.0
Aspen Real Estate Ltd.	310.0	0.0
Atidon	67.5	-10.0
Atmor Industries (1973) Ltd.	1158.0	0.0
ATX Export Ltd.	170.2	0.0
Atzmauth	52000.0	0.0
Atzmon	160.0	0.0
Aura Investments Res & Devel	4400.0	-1.3
Avarbuch Formica Center Ltd.	600.0	0.0
Avastion Links Ltd.	1021.0	-9.8
Avner Oil & Gas Ltd.	4.0	14.3
Ayalon Holdings	903.0	0.0
Azimuth Ltd.	481.0	-2.6
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	444.0	-8.5
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	581.0	0.0
Azorim Inv Devel & Construct	528.0	-1.7
Balantine	143.5	0.0
Bank Adanim Mortgage & Loans	32400.0	0.0
Bank Leumi Le-Israel	75.2	0.0
Bank of Jerusalem	191.5	-1.8
BAR	333.0	0.0
BAR SOL	108.7	0.0
Berad	230.0	0.0
Baranowitz	680.0	0.0
Barkan Wine Cellars	682.0	2.0
Bartal	220.0	0.0
Baumel Moshe	163.5	0.0
Bayside Land Corp	1800.0	0.0
Bet Shemesh	1787.0	0.7
Bellron Investment Limited	3660.0	0.0
Bellmon-Nurit Ltd.	360.0	0.0
Ben Yakar Gat	4300.0	0.0
Bebh	289.0	0.0
Bezeq	422.0	1.4
Bilu Enterprises (H.C) Limited	2020.0	0.0
Binar	260.0	0.0
Binyan Investment Co. Ltd.	1300.0	-2.4
Birl	222.0	0.0
Birman Wood Industries-1992	153.9	1.4
Bonan Tichon	499.0	0.0
Bonjour	670.0	5.5
Boulous Gad	270.0	5.1
Boulous Gad	24.0	4.3
Boulous Granite & Marble Ltd.	130.1	0.0
Brand	84.7	0.0
Brill Shoe Industries Ltd.	37.0	0.0
Brookside Investments Ltd.	14.3	0.0
Brosh	105.0	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
C Hotings	290.0	0.0
Canlel	2220.0	0.5
Carrykol	30.0	0.0
Caprice Jewellery (1965) Limited	292.0	4.3
Caprice Jewellery (1965) Limited	57.0	0.0
Carmel Mortgage & Invest Bnk	469.0	0.0
Castro Model Limited	530.0	0.0
Catalena	431.0	0.0
Ceasana Land & Resort Ltd.	6580.0	0.0
Cementcal	228.0	0.0
Central Securities Limited	776.0	0.0
Centre	150.0	0.0
Cham	398.0	-0.3
Chayun Computers	161.0	0.0
Chempal	490.0	0.0
Chem-Nir	332.0	0.0
CI Systems	112.0	0.0
Cridav Printed Circuits Limited	350.0	0.0
Cinor Darom	353.0	0.0
Clal Tourism Limited	557.0	0.0
Cohen Beni	153.1	0.0
Cohen Development & Industrial Buildings Limited	124.0	3.3
Comfy Interactive Movies Ltd.	155.0	0.0
Comfy Interactive Movies Ltd.	7.0	0.0
Computita	220.0	4.8
Computer Direct	986.0	0.6
Comsoft Technologies	930.0	0.0
Comtech	485.0	2.9
Constrans Transportation & Eng.	845.0	9.9
Contahal Limited	1200.0	-4.0
Contractors	21800.0	0.0
Coral Beach	781.0	0.0
Crow	579.0	0.0
Crystal Consumer Products Limited	530.0	0.0
Cyclone Aviation Products	5950.0	11.8
Dafron	1391.0	0.0
DAN Rent-A-Car	779.0	-0.1
Danbar Ltd.	3430.0	-3.7
Danbar Ltd	9700.0	7.3
Danbar Resources Develop	4190.0	0.0
Danbar Technologies Ltd.	3960.0	0.0
Danel	90.0	0.0
Danel (Adr Yeoshua) Limited	2300.0	0.5
Danel (Adr Yeoshua) Limited	200.0	0.0
Dankner	400.0	0.0
Danly	490.0	0.0
Dared	109.4	0.0
Darban	58.0	11.5
Daroa	168.0	2.1
Darton	289.0	0.0
Data Automation Limited	690.0	0.0
DCL Technologies Limited	722.0	0.0
Decision Systems Israel Limited	370.0	1.6
Degem Systems	476.0	-2.9
Delek Drilling - LP	16.7	0.0
Delek Energy Systems Limited	1400.0	-1.5
Desany	1062.0	0.0
Di Rom Building Invest & Development	1260.0	0.0
Digal Investments & Holdings Limited	1350.0	8.0
DJG Factory of Electrical Supplies Limited	430.0	0.0
Dim Moves Production LP	1.0	0.0
Dolev Insurance Co. Limited	373.0	-1.8
Domotar	461.0	0.0
Dor Berger	330.0	10.0
DOR Chemicals Limited	41.0	0.0
Dor Energy	1252.0	2.6
Doras Investment & Developments Limited	50.6	0.0
Don Engineering	672.0	0.0
Dovrat Shren	1470.0	-3.7
DS Inv	720.0	0.0
Dubek	3.1	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Dubek	3.0	-9.1
Duniec Brothers Limited	236.0	0.0
E & M Computing	1338.0	0.0
E Solomon Investment & Consultancy Limited	576.0	0.0
Elhut Capital Markets Ltd.	525.0	-0.4
Eini Industries	138.3	0.0
ELA R Construction Engineer	276.0	0.0
Elad Hotels Ltd.	422.0	0.0
Elad Hotels Ltd.	43.0	0.0
Eldan Tech Ltd.	155.0	0.0
Electrochemical Industries 1952 Ltd.	300.0	0.0
Electrode Works Zika Ltd.	585.0	0.0
Electrode Works Zika Ltd.	2540.0	0.0
Electronics Line (El) Ltd.	699.0	0.0
Elgar Migdal Investments Co.	7390.0	0.0
El-Kant Development Ltd.	400.0	2.8
Ellem Migdal Investment CP	5140.0	0.0
Elrod-Development & Real EST	1.0	0.0
Elrod-Development & Real EST	206.0	0.0
El-Roy (Israel) Ltd.	71.0	-8.0
Emek	193.4	0.0
Engel Trade Centers Ltd.	59.0	0.0
Enterprise	432.0	0.0
Equisel Ltd.	1419.0	-1.8
Europe Israel	1249.0	0.0
Evrot Industries Ltd.	295.0	0.3
Evrot Industries Ltd.	33.0	-5.7
Excellance	1470.0	0.0
Export Investment Corp.	816.0	-8.1
F.G.T. Formula Computer Technologies Limited	1180.0	0.0
Feldman Industr	250.0	0.0
Feuchtwanger Industries Ltd.	347.0	3.9
Fidelity Gold	2830.0	0.0
Financial Levers Ltd.	24.0	0.0
Five J	371.0	0.0
Flying Carpet Limited	1180.0	1.2
FMS Enterprises Migun Limited	1787.0	5.1
Frutarom	400.0	0.0
Gachelet	12580.0	-4.7
Gai Beach Hotel	975.0	0.0
Galran	1270.0	0.0
Gama Communications Limited	138.0	0.0
Gematronic	643.0	0.5
Gembit Computer Communications Limited	2780.0	0.0
GAN Shmuel Food Industries	420.0	1.7
GAN Shmuel Food Industries	1403.0	0.0
Ganey Or Investments Limited	108.0	0.0
Gazit	700.0	0.0
Gazit Globe (1982) Limited	852.0	0.2
Gibor	82.0	0.0
Gibor Sabrina Alpha Socks Limited	202.0	1.0
Gibor Sport Holdings Limited	820.0	-2.4
Gibor Sport Holdings Limited	82.0	0.0
Gilbos	40.0	-25.9
Gilon Investments (1979) Limited	180.0	0.0
Giltak Telecommunications	1782.0	0.0
Givot Olam Oil Exploration - LP (1993)	106.0	1.4
Golan Fine Crafts (1977) Limited	496.0	0.0
Gold	406.0	0.0
Golden House	512.0	0.0
Green Software Development Limited	240.0	0.0
H Atomi Enterprise Ltd.	279.0	0.0
Habas	3520.0	0.6
Hachsharat Hayishuv Hotels	319.0	0.0
Hachsharat Hayishuv Hotels	84.0	0.0
Hadar Insurance Co.	2490.0	-2.4
Hadar Insurance Co.	873.0	1.1
Hadarim Propert	1420.0	0.7
Hamelcor Printing Limited	159.3	0.0
Hamashbir Fashion Warehouses Limited	528.0	0.0

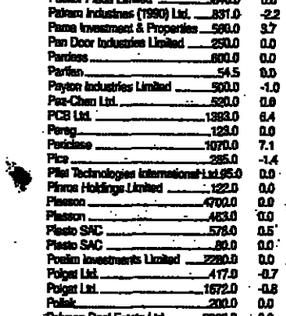
	LAST	CHANGE*
Hashmira Security Technologies (1971) Limited	818.0	8.8
Hashmira Security Technologies (1971) Limited	192.0	0.0
Hason	236.0	0.0
Hassia ESH	987.0	0.0
Hatehof Ltd	158.0	0.0
Hatehof Ltd	73.1	0.0
Hayal Holdings (1965) Ltd.	853.0	-14.1
Hayal Holdings (1965) Ltd.	119.1	0.0
HED Arzi	246.0	0.0
HGH Marketing & Distribution of Building Limited	439.0	0.0
Hiron Trade Investment IND	10150.0	0.0
Hiron Trade Investment IND	39000.0	8.0
Ht. Finance & Services Ltd.	2370.0	0.0
Hod Metal Products Manufacturing Co. Limited	103.8	0.0
Hofit	180.0	4.7
Hotel Yamit Tel Aviv Limited	170.0	-8.6
IBS Electronics Industries	49.0	0.0
IBS Electronics Industries	240.0	-4.0
Ilan GAT Engineers Ltd.	118.0	0.0
ILD Insurance	255.0	-6.6
Imco Industries Ltd.	911.0	0.0
Industrial Buildings Corp.	14.0	418.5
Industrial Buildings Corp.	27.3	6.6
Industrial Development	1513.0	-0.5
Industries & Investments of Selan Ltd.	1259.0	0.0
INOC Dead Sea LP	1.0	0.0
INOC Dead Sea LP	45.8	0.0
Interconsma Ltd.	1050.0	0.0
Inter-Gama Investment Co. Ltd.	2600.0	8.3
Inter-Gama Investment Co. Ltd.	11700.0	0.0
Inventech Investment Co.	600.0	0.0
Investcont Co. Founded Ampa	9460.0	3.0
Investment Corp. Of Mizrahi	10250.0	0.0
ISAL	1645.0	2.8
ISAL	390.0	1.0
Iscal Holdings Ltd.	1000.0	-6.3
ISE Consulting Directing Ltd.	1610.0	-3.2
Isracolor	309.0	0.0
Israel Adler Ltd.	120.0	0.0
Israel Citrus Plantations	31700.0	0.0
Israel Citrus Plantations	98000.0	0.0
Israel Cold Storage & Supply	2040.0	0.0
Israel Phoenix Assurance Co.	2930.0	-2.3
Israel Properties Rental CP	5800.0	0.0
Israel Steel Mills	118.0	7.3
Israeli Processing Co. Ltd.	100.0	0.0
Israel-Rassco Investment Co.	29700.0	0.0
Israel-Rassco Investment Co.	6740.0	0.0
Isralom Properties	900.0	0.0
Isramco - LP	2.5	-3.8
Issta Lines Limited	2290.0	0.0
Issac Capital Markets Limited	33.5	0.0
Itonut	3920.0	0.5
Jacobinale	113.1	0.0
Jaysour Mortgage Bank Ltd.	181.0	0.0
JEC	199.0	2.1
Jerusalem Oil Exploration	583.0	2.7
Jerusalem Oil Exploration	4.0	11.1
Jowlee	225.0	0.0
Jordan Investment Ltd.	459.0	0.0
Jordan River Hotel	480.0	0.0
Kadimary	119.0	0.0
Kadoum Signs Limited	649.0	0.0
Kadury & Hai (Mollet) Assets & Investments Limited	652.0	0.0
Kafrit Industries (1993) Limited	1160.0	-0.1
Kalanit Carmon Software Services	1383.0	-3.1
Kamor	341.0	-0.5
Kardan Investments Limited		
Kardan Investments Limited	2650.0	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Kargal Limited	542.0	-1.5
Katz	126.0	0

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	LAST	CHANGE*
Merkur	140.0	-4.1
Mashulam Levinstein CON & EN2990.0		0.0
Mashulam Levinstein CON & EN4450.0		0.0
Maycrit	104.0	0.0
Michael Building & Inv (S)	19.0	0.0
Middle East Tube	170.0	0.0
Middle East Tube	9.0	0.0
Millley Bze Karmiel Limited	397.0	0.0
Millcontor	1400.0	0.0
Millcontor	95.0	-13.6
Minrav	192.9	0.0
Mid Line	657.0	0.0
Minrav Holdings Ltd.	14200.0	0.0
Mivtech Shamir	2900.0	1.2
Mivtech Shamir Finance Limited	1980.0	4.5
MJ Leisure (1992) Ltd.	71.1	0.0
MLT	366.0	0.0
MM	101.0	0.0
MMD Technology Israel 1983	1950.0	0.0
Modgal	780.0	0.0
Molet Israel Technology Fund	196.4	0.0
Molet Israel Technology Fund	293.0	0.0
MOR	366.0	0.0
Mostkovitz	718.0	-1.7
MTI	178.0	4.5
MTM	1530.0	0.0
Mule Caree-Beasey	229.0	0.0
Multiple Investments & Developing Limited		699.0
0.0		
Mul-T-Lock Ltd.	680.0	0.0
Myrag	149.0	0.0
Mzpk	507.0	-4.3
N. Feldman & Son Limited	77.4	0.0
Namel	115.0	0.0
Naphtha	23.5	2.6
Nationala - PRF	127.0	0.0
Nature-Travel Agents Association for Organized Tours Limited	540.0	0.0
Navigator Inv	263.0	0.0
Nechushtan Int Co. Ltd.	465.0	0.0
Nechushtan Int Co. Ltd.	2800.0	0.0
Nechushtan Prop	155.9	0.0
Nechushtan Prop	17.9	0.0
Negev Ceramics Ltd.	189.0	-9.3
Neot Arlv Ltd.	7500.0	0.0
Neseuth Zanner Limited	427.0	0.0
Neurim Pharmaceuticals (1991) Limited		—
Nave Arbel	185.0	0.0
Neviim	364.0	0.0
Nexiot	774.0	0.0
NIA Metal Works & Electronic Painting Limited		268.0
0.0		
Nilav Computers (Israel) Ltd.	894.0	0.0
Nisko Industries (1992) Limited	2010.0	0.0
Nissim	260.0	0.0
NMC Music Ltd.	248.0	0.0
Noga	1488.0	0.0
Noga Insurance Company Limited	79.0	0.0
Nordan - LP		—
Nordan Tech	500.0	0.0
Norbilk	596.0	0.0
NUR Outdoor Advertising Ltd.	63.0	0.0
Oceana Advanced Industries	296.0	3.5
Ocil Investment & Development	8300.0	-2.1
Ocil Investment & Development	750.0	0.0
Oler	8250.0	0.8
Oler Commercial Centers Limited	600.0	3.4
Oler Development & Investments Limited		1255.0
1.5		
Ollis Textile Ltd.	1128.0	-0.8
Ogdan	81.0	0.0
Oil Fields LP	2.4	0.0
Olizky Mining Ltd.	39.0	0.0
Omri Food Brands Limited	253.0	0.0
Omri-Eichut Limited	210.0	0.0
Opbir	298.0	3.1
Opbir Tours Limited	440.0	0.0
Oppenheimer Jerusalem Sweets	86.0	0.0
Optima Management & Invest 66	129.0	0.0
Orazil Ltd.	500.0	0.0
Orbit-Alcatel Technologies	810.0	1.4
Orda Print Industries Ltd.	2750.0	0.0
Odil Holdings Limited	385.0	6.9
Orlite Industries (1959) Ltd.	308.0	0.0
Orlite Industries (1959) Ltd.	60.0	0.0
Ormat Industries	1.0	0.0
Orsya Clinical Systems Limited	2680.0	0.0
Orsal Diecasting (1993) Ltd.	360.0	0.0
Otzar Hashilton Hamekomi Ltd	22600.0	-2.6
Oz Add	388.0	0.0
OZ Hydraulics	115.0	0.0
OZ Investment Co. Ltd.	186.0	0.0
Packer Plada Limited	5940.0	0.0
Palram Industries (1990) Ltd.	831.0	-2.2
Pama Investment & Properties	586.0	3.7
Pan Door Industries Limited	250.0	0.0
Pardess	600.0	0.0
Partlex	54.5	0.0
Payton Industries Limited	500.0	-1.0
Paz-Chen Ltd.	520.0	0.0
PCB Ltd.	1393.0	6.4
Pereg	123.0	0.0
Peridase	1070.0	7.1
Plca	285.0	-1.4
Pilat Technologies International Ltd	95.0	0.0
Pimco Holdings Limited	122.0	0.0
Plasson	4700.0	0.0
Plasson	463.0	0.0
Plasto SAC	576.0	0.5
Plasto SAC	80.0	0.0
Poalim Investments Limited	2280.0	0.0
Polgat Ltd.	417.0	-0.7
Polgat Ltd.	1672.0	-0.8
Polisk	200.0	0.0
Polygon Real Estate Ltd	2000.0	0.0
Poseidon Industries	97.8	0.0
Printing Enterprises Limited	401.0	0.0
Pritzker Enterprise Ltd.	174.8	0.0
Profit	349.0	0.0
Properties Enterprise and Development Limited		1249.0
0.0		
Pyramid	54.5	9.9
Quesaco Ltd.	35.7	0.0
Rabinex	400.0	0.0
Rakia Agencies	209.0	0.0
RAM ZUR	62.0	0.0
Rangor Investments Limited	170.0	0.0
Ravtech Limited	518.0	0.0
Rapac	2220.0	-3.5
Rassco Rural & Suburban Settlement	1400.0	0.0
Ratio Oil Exploration - LP	1.0	0.0
RAV CAR	160.0	0.0
Rawad	124.0	0.0
RED SEA Hotels Ltd.	900.0	-1.1
Regency Jerusalem Hotel	128.0	0.0
Rekah	390.0	0.0
Reshet	54.0	0.0
Rimoni Industries Limited	794.0	-2.9
Rogosin Enterprises Of Israe	1781.0	0.0
Rogosin Enterprises Of Israe	425.0	0.0
Romach	430.0	0.0
Rosebud Medical	98.0	0.0
Rosenfeld	100.4	0.0
Rotem	238.0	1.3
Rotshtein Construction & Assets Company Limited		-8.7
115.0		
RSL Electronics Limited	500.0	-2.3
RSL Electronics Limited	317.0	0.0
Sadot Research and Development Fund Limited		0.8
241.0		
Saban Development & Invest	2850.0	0.0
Saban Development & Invest	401.0	0.0
Saban Securities	522.0	-4.9
Salomon A Angel Ltd.	5560.0	0.0
Sandacol Ltd.	355.0	0.0
Sano-Brunos Enterprises Ltd.	2790.0	0.0
Sano-Brunos Enterprises Ltd.	13400.0	9.6
Sa...es	538.0	0.0
Sanlad	31.0	0.0
Scope Metals Trading & Technical Services Ltd.		104.0
0.0		
Scope Metals Trading & Technical Services Ltd.		1270.0
0.0		
Secom (Israel)	281.0	0.0
Semicon Industries Limited	127.0	0.0
Sergius	355.0	0.0
Shafer Hamilleniium (1991)	950.0	0.0
Shanir	578.0	0.0
Shanir	600.0	0.0
Shay Bar Real Estate Investments Limited		69.8
0.0		
Shekel	220.0	0.0
Shalom Limited	66.0	-4.2
Shelag Textile Limited	115.0	0.0
Shem TOV	305.0	0.0
Shemen Industries Ltd.	12100.0	0.0
Shiloh Metal Works Ltd.	70.4	0.0
Shore Zone Coast Property	365.0	-3.2
Shrang	103.9	0.9
Shufersal Gardens Hotels Limited	465.0	0.0
Sruchs Uteli & Sons Engs	102.0	0.0
Sisa	695.0	-8.4
Sistec	308.0	0.0
Solomon Holding	412.0	0.0
Solomon Holding	80.4	0.0
Spectronis Ltd.	1296.0	4.5
STG International Ltd.	1100.0	0.0
Sunfrost Ltd.	4390.0	0.0
Super Emsel Ltd.	1075.0	-0.9
Super Emsel Ltd.	143.7	0.0
Synopsis	154.0	0.0
Taaf Manufacturing Plywood	165.7	0.0
Tadbik	220.0	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Tadiran Consumer Ltd.	530.0	3.9
TAI	130.0	0.0
Taldor Computer Systems (1985) Limited		564.0
5.4		
Tamilotec Invest & Holdings		—
Tasta	188.0	0.0
TAT Aero Equipment Industrie	370.0	0.0
TAT Aero Equipment Industrie	1257.0	2.2
Teya Communication	375.0	0.0
Teya Inv (S)	749.0	-8.9
Team Computers & Systems Ltd.	5980.0	0.0
Team Computers & Systems Ltd.	530.0	0.0
Technoplast Industries Ltd.	491.0	2.7
Tedea Technological Development & Automation Ltd.		
1420.0		-0.8
Tedea Technological Development & Automation Ltd.		
159.0		0.0
Telen	1370.0	0.2
Telsys	1350.0	-0.4
Telsys	192.0	-3.3
Tenna	196.0	0.0
Tevza-A Fairchild Tech Vent	200.0	0.0
Tevza-A Fairchild Tech Vent	201.0	-0.5
The Ismal Corp. Limited	176900.0	0.0
Third Millennium Tourism & Recreation Limited		210.0
0.0		
Tibon-Visal Holdings Ltd.	131.0	0.0
TIV Textile Group (1989) Ltd.	369.0	0.0
TMM Integrated Recycling Industries Limited		183.0
0.0		
Tobles	1899.0	0.0
Tom Holdings Limited	1003.0	-2.6
Topper Fashion Enterp (1977)	45.2	0.0
Tosaf Compounds Limited	378.0	0.0
Trade Bank Limited	985.0	-0.8
Tradelot	513.0	0.0
Transcal	604.0	0.0
Trendline Information and Communication Services		
Limited	1800.0	0.0
Tutnauer	980.0	0.7
Tzraiha Investment House Ltd.	475.0	-7.4
Unibar (1)	754.0	0.0
Unico Investment Co. Ltd.	4300.0	0.0
Unicorn Investments Co. Ltd.	35.0	2.9
Unidress Industries Ltd.	2130.0	0.0
United Mizrahi Bank Ltd.	83.5	-4.5
Universal-H Hollman & Sons	530.0	1.0
Urdan Industries Ltd	900.0	-1.3
Videomatrix	28.7	0.0
Vilter	432.0	-2.7
Villiger	30.2	0.0
Visalgo Textile Works Ltd.	280.0	-5.1
VSP Capital Holdings Limited	958.0	0.0
Vulcan	491.0	0.0
Wardinon	25000.0	0.0
Wardinon	156.0	0.0
Willy Food	1110.0	-5.9
Willy Food	385.0	0.0
Wollman Industries Ltd.	471.0	0.0
Wollman Industries Ltd.	2060.0	-2.4
Wollton	68700.0	0.0
Yasd Industries Ltd.	305.0	0.0
Yasd Industries Ltd.	80.0	0.0
Yaslow Engel Constr Enter Co.	518.0	2.8
YAD	548.0	0.0
Yedpaz Steel Service Co. Limited	258.0	0.0
Yena Systems	871.0	0.0
Yeda Computers & Software (1982 Israel) Limited		
1430.0		0.0
Yaude	176.0	10.0
Yonah Hotels Ltd.	230.0	0.0
YT America - Israel Investment Company Limited		
2270.0		0.0
YT America - Israel Investment Company Limited		
215.0		-40.9
Zahir Engineers Limited	580.0	0.0
Zaevi Computers & Technology Limited	3450.0	9.2
Zaevi Retail Chains Limited	48700.0	0.0
Zeier Eldagon	390.0	0.0
Zeier Eldagon Investments & Securities		3.4 0.0
Zildt Properties & Development (1956) Limited		2750.0
0.0		
Zildt Properties & Development (1956) Limited		10100.0
0.0		
Zinometal	540.0	0.0
Zion Holdings Ltd.	16000.0	0.0
Zohar Industries (1988) Ltd.	226.0	-10.0
Zoko	299.0	-0.3
ZUR Shamir Holdings Ltd.	158.9	-2.2



AMEX

American Israeli Paper Mills	37.0	0.0
Ampal American Israel	4.06	-1.51
Carmel Container SYS	5.75	-2.13
Electrochemical Industries 1952 Ltd.	0.69	0.0
Emulsiv Ltd.	5.69	-7.14
ETZ Lavod Ltd.	9.0	0.0
ETZ Lavod Ltd.	6.25	0.0
Integrated Technology USA	1.38	-8.33

NASDAQ

A.C.S. Electronics Limited	1.63	-13.33
Accent Software International Ltd.	0.22	-12.5
Accent Software International Ltd.	0.28	50.0
Aladdin Knowledge Systems	9.25	0.0
American Israeli Paper Mills	37.0	0.0
Ampal American Israel	11.69	0.0
Aral Communications & Software Ltd.	5.88	2.17
Aral Communications & Software Ltd.	1.0	0.0
Better Online Solutions Ltd.	4.69	1.35
Better Online Solutions Ltd.	6.28	-10.0
Biogen Inc.	109.0	0.81
Bio-Technology General Corp.	5.56	0.0
Blue Square-Israel Ltd.	12.69	0.0
BVR Systems Ltd.	8.19	0.0
BVR Technologies Ltd.	2.94	4.44
Carmel Container SYS	5.75	-2.13
Check Point Software Technologies	36.69	0.0
Comverse Technology Inc.	80.0	-1.54
Data Systems & Software	1.88	-6.25
Cimetron Ltd.	2.16	4.54
Crystal Systems Solutions	8.13	-1.51
ECI Telecom Ltd	41.16	-0.38
Edusoft Ltd.	8.16	0.0
DSP Group Inc.	14.88	-0.84
Elbit Ltd.	3.75	-0.83
Elbit Medical Imaging Ltd.	10.06	-0.62
Elbit Systems Ltd.	14.25	3.64
Elbit Vision Systems Ltd.	1.69	-8.9
Electric Fuel Corp.	9.31	-1.85
Electrochemical Industries 1952 Ltd.	0.69	0.0
Electronics FOR Imaging	36.5	1.32
Elron Electronic Inds	17.19	-0.36
Elscint Ltd.	11.63	-4.82
Elsek Ltd.	1.13	20.0
Emultek Ltd.	5.69	-7.14
Engel General Developers Ltd.	1.88	0.0
ESC Medical Systems Ltd.	5.19	2.47
Esthad Robotec (1982) Ltd.	0.38	0.0
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	8.25	0.0
ETZ Lavud Ltd.	8.0	0.0
Fonsale Systems (1985) Ltd.	25.25	-0.49
Fosslt Ltd.	8.69	-0.71
Fundtech Ltd.	22.25	15.58
G. Willi-Food International	1.19	0.0
Galileo Technology Ltd.	23.0	0.0
Genesis Development & Constr	0.75	0.0
Genesis Development & Constr	0.22	0.0
Genesis Development & Constr	2.31	0.0
Genesis Development & Constr	1.75	0.0
Gilat Communications Ltd.	12.94	9.7
Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd.	62.75	-0.4
Healthcare Technologies Ltd.	1.0	6.67
Home Centers (Dly) Ltd.	9.25	-2.63
IIC Industries Inc.	8.88	0.0
IIS Intelligent Information	0.75	0.0
ISG International Software Group Ltd.	11.38	-4.71
Isramco Inc.	2.38	4.29
The Israel Land Development	15.0	0.0
Koor Industries Limited	30.56	-1.5
Lanoptics Ltd.	3.81	46.78
Level 8 Systems Inc.	3.75	-2.5
Logal Educational Software	0.5	-20.0
M-Systems Flash Disk Pioneer	4.94	2.21
Madge Networks NV	3.38	0.0
Magal Security Systems Ltd.	3.0	-4.0
Magic Software Enterprises	5.75	3.37
Mann-Cable Systems Media Limited	27.25	0.89
Medis El Ltd.	7.5	0.0
Memco Software Ltd.	10.0	-5.33
MER Telemanagement Solutions	1.69	-1.82
Netmanage Inc.	2.88	2.22
Neuromedical Systems Inc.	0.22	0.0
New Dimension Software	51.56	0.0
Nexus Telecommunication SYS	2.5	0.0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Nice Systems Ltd.	30.13	2.77
Noga Electro-Mechanical Industries (1986) Ltd.		
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Noga Electro-Mechanical Industries (1986) Ltd.		0.88
0.0		
NUR Macroprinters Ltd.	2.97	5.56
Optisystems Solutions Ltd.	8.0	6.67
Optomedic Medical Technologies Ltd.	0.88	0.0
Optomedic Medical Technologies Ltd.	0.28	0.0
Orbotech Ltd.	50.5	1.38
Orckit Communications Ltd.	14.0	-1.75
Oshap Technologies Ltd.	13.31	26.79
Paradigm Geophysical Ltd.	4.44	1.43
Point of Sale Limited	8.13	0.0
Rade Electronic Inds Ltd.	0.97	-3.13
Radcom Ltd.	2.5	5.96
RIT Technologies Ltd.	1.81	0.0

NYSE

Amdocs	21.31	2.39
Blue Square-Israel Ltd.	12.69	0.0
DSP Communications Inc.	14.94	3.45
Elscint Ltd.	11.63	-4.82
First Israel Fund	12.5	-0.5
Koor Industries Limited	30.56	-1.5
PEC Israel Economic Corp.	29.5	-0.42
Scitex Inc.	5.81	2.2
Super-Sol Limited	12.5	-5.21
Tefron Ltd.	7.75	1.84

LONDON

Batm Advanced Communications	252.5	3.06
Technoplast Industries Ltd.	77.5	-3.13
Selector Ltd.	2.5	0.0
Pilat Technologies International Ltd.	13.5	0.0



NEW YORK

3coms Corp.	34.63	-1.0
AT&T Corp.	63.81	-2.04
Abbott Laboratories	48.88	0.0
Adobe Systems Inc.	48.25	1.58
Advanced Micro Devices	17.13	-2.14
Aeroquip-Vickers Inc.	57.38	0.0
AES Corp.	36.0	-1.54
Aetna Inc.	79.25	2.87
Allec Inc.	48.19	2.25
Air Products & Chemicals Inc.	31.63	-2.5
Airpouch Communications	92.75	0.81
Alberto-Culver Co.	24.25	1.84
Albertson's Inc.	55.19	-3.5
Alcan Aluminium Ltd.	23.75	0.26
Alcoa Inc.	38.69	2.15
Allegheny Teledyne Inc.	19.25	0.39
Allergan Inc.	89.19	0.85
Alliedsignal Inc.	45.25	-0.55
Allstate Corp.	39.31	0.16
Alltel Corp.	58.5	0.0
Alza Corp.	52.13	-0.38
Amazon.Com Inc.	136.88	5.34
Amerada Hess Corp.	50.56	4.76
Ameran Corporation	37.0	-1.33
America Online Inc.	92.81	2.88
America West Holdings Corp.	17.25	1.47
American Electric Power	41.06	-1.5
American Express Company	118.0	-0.21
American General Corp.	75.44	0.67
American Greetings	22.94	-1.67
American Home Products Corp.	62.06	-0.3
American International Group	121.25	0.36
American National Insurance	74.0	-0.34
American Power Conversion	32.88	0.19
American Stores Co.	33.19	-3.56
Amerltech Corporation/Del	64.31	-0.96
Amelek Inc.	17.44	1.83
Amgen Inc.	69.94	3.71
AMP Inc.	54.0	0.23
AMR Corp/Del	57.69	-2.74
Anadarko Petroleum Corp.	36.06	5.29
Analog Devices	27.31	0.69
Andrew Corp.	13.0	-0.95
Anheuser-Busch Companies Inc.	77.25	-1.28
AON Corp.	63.81	1.89
Apache Corp.	24.13	11.88
Apple Computer Inc.	32.63	-4.4
Applied Magnetics Corp.	3.88	0.0
Applied Materials Inc.	60.81	3.29
Archer-Daniels-Midland Co.	14.56	-1.27
Armstrong World Inds Inc.	50.38	0.62
ASA Ltd.	17.75	-0.7
Asarco Inc.	14.63	0.43
Ascent Communications Inc.	30.94	-2.56
Ashland Inc.	42.31	0.3
Associates First Capital Corp.	44.25	1.67
Atlantic Richfield Co.	61.0	4.72
Automatic Data Processing	38.63	-1.59
Autodesk Inc.	41.88	4.04
Automatic Data Processing	38.63	-1.59
Autozone Inc.	33.75	-0.73
Avery-Dennison Corp.	53.25	5.27
Avnet Inc.	59.75	-0.31
Avon Products	47.44	1.2
Balmco Corp.	5.19	-1.19
Baker Hughes Inc.	22.38	11.18
Ball Corp.	41.31	2.8
Baltimore Gas & Electric	29.06	1.21
Bandag Inc.	31.25	-0.99
Bank of New York Co. Inc.	37.19	0.34
Bank One Corp.	58.69	0.87
BankAmerica Corp.	71.38	1.6
Bank/Boston Corporation	43.88	4.31
Bankers Trust Corp.	86.19	0.43
Bard (C.R.) Inc.	57.44	-0.76
Barnes & Noble Inc.	27.13	4.33
Barrick Gold Corp.	18.75	0.0
Battle Mountain Gold Co.	3.63	-1.7
Bausch & Lomb Inc.	63.88	0.59
Baxter International Inc.	72.63	1.04
BB&T Corporation	39.06	0.61
Bear Stearns Companies Inc.	46.5	0.14
Becton Dickinson & Co.	37.06	-0.67
Bed Bath & Beyond Inc.	32.0	-9.21
Bell Atlantic Corp.	54.13	-0.8
Bell Industries Inc.	11.19	-0.56
Bellsouth Corporation	45.94	-0.14
Belo (A.H.) Corp.	18.5	2.42
Beverly Enterprises Inc.	5.06	-2.41
Bemis Co.	36.0	-0.18
Bestfoods	47.56	2.29
Bethlehem Steel Corp.	8.25	0.76
Biomet Inc.	39.69	0.95
Black & Decker Corporation	50.0	0.0
Block H & R Inc.	49.75	-0.38
BMC Software Inc.	39.56	-4.25
Boeing Co.	34.0	0.18
Boise Cascade Corp.	31.81	1.19
Books-A-Million Inc.	10.38	1.84
Bowater Inc.	41.25	4.6
Boston Scientific Corp.	28.88	-1.55
Briggs & Stratton	50.5	3.48
British Telecom Plc	173.5	0.62
British Airways Plc	71.0	1.52
British Steel Plc	19.88	-0.63
Brown Group Inc.	14.5	5.46
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	82.94	-1.27
Brown-Forman Corp.	63.06	-1.58
Browning-Ferris Inds	39.25	0.84
Brunswick Corp.	20.88	2.45
Burlington Northern/Santa Fe	33.38	0.58
Burlington Resources Inc.	38.25	5.88
Cabletron Systems	7.81	-0.79
Cabot Corp.	22.56	3.44
Campbell Soup Company	41.0	1.55
Canadian Pacific Ltd.	19.0	0.33
Capital One Financial Corp.	136.06	1.12
Capstead Mortgage Corp.	5.06	1.25
Cardinal Health Inc.	71.69	-4.15
Caremarkrx Corporation	18.75	0.96
Carnival Corp.	44.75	2.29
Carolina Power & Light	40.56	-0.46
Carpenter Technology	33.94	-2.79
Caterpillar Inc.	48.88	0.13
CBS Corp.	36.69	1.06
Cemex Corp.	35.0	-1.93
Central & South West Corp.	24.69	-1.0
Century Bancorp Inc.	66.13	0.19
Ceridian Corp.	36.0	-2.7
Champion International Corp.	36.69	4.44
Channing Shoppes	4.13	1.54
Chase Manhattan Corp.	88.75	0.52
Chevron Corporation	88.25	4.14
Chubb Corp.	60.56	2.21
Cigna Corp.	76.5	0.16
Cincinnati Financial Corp.	37.63	2.12
Cinergy Corp.	29.06	-1.48
Circuit City Stores-Circuit	57.5	-3.57
Cisco Systems Inc.	103.94	-1.31
Citigroup Inc.	63.88	2.2

	LAST	CHANGE*
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.	35.25	0.89
Clorox Company	125.94	-1.27
CMS Energy Corp.	40.69	-0.61
Coastal Corp.	35.75	5.54
Coca-Cola Co.	63.0	0.0
Coca-Cola Enterprises	34.13	-1.44
Colgate-Palmolive Company	92.31	-0.27
Columbia Energy Group	54.19	2.24
Columbia HCA Healthcare Corp.	18.5	2.42
Comcast Corp.	75.75	3.5
Comerica Inc.	68.75	0.64
Compaq Computer Corp.	31.5	-3.82
Computer Associates International Inc.	33.94	-15.16
Computer Sciences Corp.	67.06	-2.81
Compuware Corp.	25.06	2.82
Conagra Inc.	30.25	0.41
Conseco Inc.	34.19	7.47
Consolidated Edison Inc.	46.5	0.27
Consolidated Freightways Corp.	15.31	-0.41
Consolidated Natural Gas Company	54.06	1.53
Cooper Industries Inc.	45.31	0.0
Cooper Tire & Rubber	20.06	1.26
Coors (Adolph)	60.5	-1.33
Corning Inc.	59.25	-0.11
Costco Companies Inc.	60.56	0.07
Countrywide Credit IND Inc.	40.25	2.22
Crane Co.	25.5	-0.97
Crompton & Knowles Corp.	17.19	-0.72
Crown Cork & Seal Co. Inc.	27.31	0.0
CSX Corp.	37.81	-0.82
Cummins Engine	40.63	0.93
Curtiss-Wright Corp.	36.56	0.0
CVS Corp.	50.75	1.5
Cyprus Amax Minerals Co.	11.13	1.71
DaimlerChrysler AG	88.25	-0.07
Dallas Semiconductor Corp.	35.88	4.24
Dana Corp.	37.44	-0.99
Data General Corp.	11.88	-6.4
Dayton-Hudson Corp.	70.88	1.25
De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited/De Beers		
Centenary AG	16.38	0.1
Deere & Co.	33.88	0.56
Dell Computer Corp.	43.0	-2.41
Delta Air Lines Inc.	62.75	-1.88
Deluxe Corp.	33.25	-0.93
Dial Corp. (New)	31.5	1.21
Diebold Inc.	24.0	-4.0
Dillards Inc.	23.56	-1.05
Dollar General	33.38	-0.19
Dominion Resources Inc/Va	38.88	0.0
Donnelley (R.R.) & Sons Co.	34.0	1.49
Dover Corp.	34.75	0.0
Dow Chemical Company	99.5	1.01
Disney (Walt)	34.69	0.0
Dow Jones & Co. Inc.	47.5	1.6
DQE Inc.	39.88	-0.31
DTE Energy Company	41.31	-0.9
Du Pont (E.I.) de Nemours	57.5	7.35
Duke Energy Corp.	57.13	0.99
Dun & Bradstreet Corp.	36.81	1.03
Eastern Enterprises	39.63	-0.16
Eastman Chemical Company	47.06	0.94
Eastman Kodak Co.	65.63	0.29
Eaton Corp.	68.63	-0.09
Ecolab Inc.	41.06	2.82
Edison International	25.88	1.47
EG&G Inc.	27.13	-0.69
Egghead.Com Inc.	14.94	-0.42
Egghead.Com Inc.	14.94	-0.42
Electronic Data Systems	47.63	0.79
EMC Corp-Mass	113.06	-0.88
Emerson Electric Co.	59.94	2.46
Engelhard Corp.	17.63	-1.74
Enron Corp.	70.06	3.41
Entergy Corp.	28.25	-0.68
Enzo Biochem Inc.	11.56	2.21
Equifax Inc.	35.0	-0.53
Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson	23.81	-2.56
Eaton Vance Corp.	19.44	0.0
Exide Corp.	12.31	-8.19
Exxon Corp.	73.25	4.74
FDX Corporation	84.31	0.87
Federated Department Stores	39.31	-0.94
First Data Corp.	40.31	0.16
First Union Corp.	54.56	2.46
FirstEnergy Corporation	29.13	0.22
Federal-Mogul Corp.	45.56	-2.93
Fedders Corp.	5.19	1.22
Fleet Financial Group Inc.	43.88	0.43
Fleetwood Enterprises	28.88	-0.85
Fluor Corporation	30.06	-12.39
Fannie MAE	73.0	-0.17
FMC Corp.	50.88	3.69
Florida Progress Corp.	40.13	0.0
Food Lion Inc.	9.41	-2.27
Ford Motor Company	56.94	-1.41
Fortune Brands Inc.	30.75	2.29
Furniture Brands International Inc.	24.75	1.28
Foster Wheeler Corp.	12.44	1.53
FPL Group Inc.	51.88	0.0
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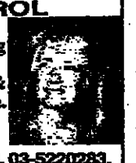
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Dafoe chalks up 7th shutout for Bruins

BOSTON (AP) – Ray Bourque had a goal and an assist and Byron Dafoe made 19 saves for his seventh shutout of the season as the Boston Bruins beat the Florida Panthers 2-0 on Tuesday.

The win gave the Bruins a two-point advantage over the New York Rangers in their fight for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. They meet tomorrow in New York.

Dafoe's stops included a glove save on Bret Hedican from the slot at 4:14 of the third period and a blocker save from the left of the crease by Robert Svehla five minutes later. The shutout was the 14th of his career. Sean Burke stopped 39 shots for Florida, including 16 in the first period.

Avalanche 3, Capitals 2 (OT)

Sandis Ozolinsh scored 19 seconds into overtime as Colorado, winning for the second straight time without three of their top stars, notched a road win.

Maple Leafs 6, Lightning 1

Sergei Berezin made his 200th NHL game a memorable one with two goals as Toronto won on home ice. Mats Sundin had a goal and two assists.

Islanders 2, Flyers 2

Tommy Salo stopped 33 shots as host New York tied struggling Philadelphia. Salo's heroics extended Philadelphia's winless streak to eight games.

Devils 3, Penguins 2

Petr Sykora scored one goal and set up another as visiting New Jersey scored three times late in the first period and beat slumping Pittsburgh.

Martin Brodeur won his 30th game, becoming the sixth goalie in NHL history to have four consecutive 30-win seasons.

Flames 7, Blues 4

Rene Corbet scored twice and had an assist as Calgary overcame a two-goal deficit to win on the road.

Kings 4, Red Wings 2

Defensemen Rob Blake and Doug Bodger scored first-period goals and Ian Laperriere got the game-winner in the second as Los Angeles ended a four-game losing streak with a home victory.

Sharks 4, Coyotes 2

Bryan Marchment, Owen Nolan and Mike Ricci scored third-period goals and Steve Shields had a quiet night in net, facing just 15 shots, as host San Jose defeated slumping Phoenix.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	36	21	8	80	194	163
Philadelphia	30	19	16	76	194	152
Pittsburgh	32	22	9	73	196	175
N.Y. Rangers	28	28	8	64	181	177
N.Y. Islanders	19	38	9	47	154	199
Northeast Division						
Ottawa	37	18	8	82	191	134
Toronto	36	24	5	77	209	188
Buffalo	29	22	13	71	170	143
Boston	28	26	10	66	165	148
Montreal	25	31	9	59	155	174
Southeast Division						
Carolina	29	23	13	71	168	158
Florida	23	24	17	63	165	172
Washington	27	32	5	59	169	171
Tampa Bay	15	44	5	35	137	239

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	32	27	6	70	193	167
St. Louis	26	27	10	62	177	167
Nashville	22	36	6	50	151	208
Chicago	18	37	9	45	142	198
Northwest Division						
Colorado	33	24	8	74	180	161
Edmonton	25	29	10	60	178	168
Calgary	24	30	10	58	172	182
Vancouver	19	35	10	48	154	200
Pacific Division						
Dallas	40	12	10	90	181	125
Phoenix	31	23	10	72	159	153
Anaheim	30	25	9	69	172	154
San Jose	23	28	14	60	145	154
Los Angeles	24	36	5	53	149	174

Tuesday's games: Boston 2, Florida 0; Colorado 3, Washington 2, OT; Toronto 6, Tampa Bay 1; Philadelphia 2, N.Y. Islanders 2, tie; New Jersey 3, Pittsburgh 2; Calgary 7, St. Louis 4; Los Angeles 4, Detroit 2; San Jose 4, Phoenix 2.

Two more held over alleged floodlight sabotage

LONDON (Reuters) – Police investigating the alleged sabotaging of floodlights at top English soccer grounds have arrested two more men, the BBC said yesterday.

The men were being questioned in connection with blackouts during matches at the grounds of London clubs Crystal Palace and West Ham in 1997, BBC radio said.

Three other men were charged last month after damage was allegedly caused to lighting equipment at another London side, Charlton Athletic, in an incident linked by the premier league club to possible Asian betting coups.

Wai Yuen Liu from Hong Kong and Malaysians Chee Kew Ong and Eng Hwa Lim were charged with conspiracy to obtain a pecuniary advantage and conspiracy to cause criminal damage.

They were remanded in custody until April 2.

SPORTS *in brief*

Derbyshire committee resigns en masse

LONDON (Reuters) – All 14 members of Derbyshire's committee resigned yesterday after a vote of no confidence by the English county's members.

Derbyshire said in a statement that the committee would act as caretakers until a new one was formed before the summer.

The resignations were prompted by a vote of no confidence passed by Derbyshire's members on Tuesday night and came after six months of division and dispute in the northern English club.

David Boon says he will retire at end of '99

SYDNEY (Reuters) – Former Australian Test batsman David Boon announced yesterday that he planned to retire from first-class cricket at the end of this year.

The stocky No. 3 batsman told a news conference in Hobart, Tasmania, that he was giving the game away to spend more time with his family.

Boon, 38, retired from Test cricket in 1996 after 107 appearances for Australia.

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2. Bids may be submitted by the manufacturer or by a licensed local agent of the manufacturer or by a licensed marketing agent. The manufacturer's guarantee and/or confirmation from the manufacturer that the bidder is a licensed local agent or marketing agent must be provided.
   All required confirmations must be submitted bearing the name of the bidder. Confirmations for components manufactured by other companies will only be accepted with prior written agreement of the original manufacturer.
3. Bidders should have at least three years' proven experience in the public/institutional sector (in the years 1996, 1997 and 1998).
4. Bidders should attach a list of 5 public/institutional bodies, including contact names and telephone numbers, to whom the bidder has supplied steel security doors continuously in each of the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 (the amount of annual sales turnover from each client should be detailed).
5. Bidders must submit a confirmation for the turnover from the installation of steel security doors in each of the years 1996, 1997 and 1998. An accountant's confirmation must be attached.
6. The bidding company undertakes that it is capable of delivery to any location throughout the country. The bidder must list the branches and their location and detail the type of service which can be obtained from each branch.

Last date for submitting bids: Monday, April 19, 1999, at 12 noon.

Applications for the tender documents should be made by fax only, to 02-531-7778, giving the following information:
Tender no._____ Subject of Tender._____
Name of bidding company._____ Authorized Trader's no._____
Company's address and postal code._____
Fax. _____ Tel. _____
Bank._____ Bank branch no._____ Bank account no._____
(at which the company has its account)

The tender documents and technical specifications will be sent, after receipt of a fax.

The tender documents may also be obtained from The Accountant General's website: www.mof.gov.il under the heading "Tenders".

Note: In any event, all interested suppliers must submit bids within the framework of this tender and must submit the aforementioned details to the Central Tenders Department by fax. (Please state that the tender documents were obtained from the website).

Our address: Tenders and Buying Dept., The Accountant General, Finance Ministry, 1 Kaplan, 7th Floor, Room 714or 715, or P.O.B. 13195, Jerusalem 91131.
For further details, call 02-531-7418, 02-531-7428.

No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

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Knesset Visits

There will be no tours of the Knesset building which will be closed to the public today, Thursday, March 11, 1999 (23 Adar 5759).

222710_03_a0

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY CLASSIFIED OFFER!

We want your used car classified ad...
...so we're making an offer **you can't refuse!!!**
Your classified car ad can run in The Jerusalem Post for only:

ONLY
NIS 64.00 for two full weeks
NIS 97.00 for one full month
NIS 128.00 for two full months

And that isn't all... Save another 10%!
1. Save 10% on above prices, by using the mail-in coupon in this paper (2 weeks NIS 57.60; one month NIS 87.30; two months NIS 115.20)
2. You get up to 25 words, to say just how great your car is!
3. You may upgrade from package to package, by paying the difference.

TERMS OF PUBLICATION: Advertisement must be for one car only. You may cancel ad, if you sell the car, but no refunds. Payment by cash, check or credit card.

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SPORTS

The local scene

Women bowlers head for Cape Town

There is an unusual sabra flavor to the national women's bowls team which is preparing for the biennial Atlantic Rim games (March 20-29) in Cape Town, South Africa.

Three of the five-women squad, Pnina Gelbgisser, Tami Kamzel and Rutie Gilor are Israeli-born and will join internationals Merle Swerdlow and Renee Kusman.

Swerdlow, current national singles champion, will be severely tested both by Mary Price of England, the winner in 1997, and former world champion, Ireland's Margaret Johnson. Gelbgisser will team with Swerdlow in the pairs with Kusman skipping Kamzel and Gilor in the trips.

This time 15 countries are competing in the 'Mini-World bowls' and Israel's mission is to better their record of sixth place in '95 and ninth place in '97.

Caesarea golf

The monthly medal competition at Caesarea's Golf Club, played in ideal weather, led to encouraging results with Zev Abraham winning the A division with a two-under-par 71. Richard Fogelson was second with a 73 and Elad Hasson third at 76.

Mati Geri took the honors in the B division with a 70 while Haim Steinfeld and Kobi Rogovin ended on 72's but Steinfeld's better back nine gave him second place.

Shlomo Ferman, with the day's best score of a 67, captured the C division with Jules Cuburnek behind him on 69 and Nate Kansky on 72.

The quartet of Stanley Stern, Jeff Strubel, Sefi Halfon and George Host won Saturday's K-C two best ball stableford tournament with a stunning 20-under-par, 92 stableford points. On 91 were Cuburnek, Roz Brodie, Dan Katzenelenbogen and Muli Timor.

Charles Scheibel and Cuburnek, with 39 points each, had the day's best scores.

Ra'anana, Rishon in rugby season's first draw

After a tightly contested match, Ra'anana and Rishon Lezion's rugby teams could only manage a 10-10 score on Saturday, the league's first draw in this season. Flyhalf Darryl Edelstein was the sole points scorer for Ra'anana, delivering a try which he converted and then adding a penalty for an excellent all-round performance. Eighth-man Sasha Volkov and fullback Uri Waldman scored the tries for Rishon.

In an unexpected result, Beersheba's team, drawing on their young blood, defeated ASA Tel Aviv 19-12. The scheduled third match was not held due to the Technion's students exam commitments.

In the under-18 league, ASA Tel Aviv demolished Tivon 33-7.

This Saturday Rishon plays Hapoel Kibbutz Yizreel, ASA Tel Aviv meets Kibbutz Tzora and the Technion hosts Hapoel Netanya.

Gilboa March sets off next week

This year's Gilboa March, the 33rd, will introduce casual walkers to the best walkers from around the world. On March 20, some 15,000 walkers are expected to criss-cross the magnificent Mt. Gilboa, soaking up the flowers and the exceptional views. Most will be walking the 11 kilometer distance but some will be participating in the international two-day route of 20km on both Friday and Saturday. For details, call 03 5176364.

Compiled by Heather Chait

Arizona banks hopes on youth

NCAA BASKETBALL
Championship Tournament

TUCSON (AP) – Comparisons between the current Arizona Wildcats and the team that won the 1997 NCAA championship suggest this year's team has a lot to prove.

Three points and 3-pointers figure in the discussion.

Two years ago Arizona won the title as a No. 4 seed with Mike Bibby, Miles Simon and Michael Dickerson leading the way. This year's fourth seed (22-6, 13-5) in the Midwest region is led by Jason Terry and center A.J. Bramlett.

The 1997 team was expected to be a year away from serious contention with Bibby leading the offense as a freshman, two players with little experience, a junior-college transfer and a part-time player in the starting lineup.

This year's Wildcats have had to adjust with five freshmen in the eight-man rotation. Only one starter returned from last year's 30-5 squad.

The 1997 Arizona team was believed to be inferior to No. 1 Kansas, which Arizona defeated. This year's Wildcats also aren't receiving much publicity with Michigan State, Kentucky, Utah and Kansas in their region.

"We want to give people a reason to start talking about us," Terry said.

Arizona can start the conversation rolling with a first-round victory over Oklahoma tomorrow in Milwaukee. The tournament begins tonight.

"The good thing is we are as ready right now as we could ever be," Arizona coach Lute Olson said. "What happens, happens."

Oklahoma (20-10) enjoys shooting 3-pointers, and opponents have shot well from long range against Arizona, hitting 36.4 percent.

"We have to get out on their 3-point shooters and make them penetrate," Jefferson said. "We are the worst 3-point shooting team defensively in the league. We need to communicate, be able to make switches and make them penetrate."

Arizona failed to defend its national championship a year ago after being routed 76-51 by Utah in the Elite Eight.

The three players who remain from the championship game victory over Kentucky are trying to ease some of the pressure.

"You have to have fun," Terry said. "We came out in '97 and we had a lot of fun. Last year it wasn't fun at all. We had a lot of pressure on us and were playing uptight. I told the guys to loosen up and enjoy this."

Arizona, which finished second in the Pac-10 this year, had a 7-2 record in games decided by four points or less. Despite freshman mistakes, the Wildcats made the right decisions down the stretch.

Those same youngsters, especially Pac-10 freshman of the year Michael Wright, must continue to take a step forward.

"I think we are ready. We have come a long way," starting freshman forward Richard Jefferson said. "You have to be excited. There are 64 of the top teams in America involved. We are playing for the No. 1 title and one of the hardest titles to get in all of sports."

If Arizona beats Oklahoma, the Wildcats would play Sunday against the winner of tomorrow's North Carolina Charlotte-Rhode Island game.

NCAA Tournament
Today's games

SOUTH
(In Indianapolis)
No. 1 Auburn- 16. Winthrop
8. Syracuse-9. Oklahoma State
5. UCLA-12. Detroit
4. Ohio State-13. Murray State
(In Orlando)
6. Indiana-11. George Washington
3. St. John's-14. Samford
7. Louisville-10. Creighton
2. Maryland-15. Valparaiso

WEST
(In Denver)
1. Connecticut-16. Texas-San Antonio
8. Missouri-9. New Mexico
5. Iowa- 12. Alabama-Birmingham
4. Arkansas-13. Siena
(In Seattle)
6. Florida-11. Pennsylvania
3. North Carolina-14. Weber State
7. Minnesota-10. Gonzaga
2. Stanford-15. Alcorn State

Rodman, Shaq up Clippers' woes

LOS ANGELES (AP) – The winless Clippers are on the verge of earning an unwanted place in the NBA record book.

Shaquille O'Neal had 31 points and 12 rebounds, and Dennis Rodman had a season-high 20 rebounds as the Lakers extended the Clippers' losing to 16 games – one shy of the league standard for losses at the start of a season – with a 103-99 victory on Tuesday.

The Clippers, who also lost 16 games at the beginning of the 1994-95 season, could tie the record set by the Miami Heat in the 1988-89 campaign if they lost last night's away game, also against the Lakers.

Their chances of winning can't be considered very good. The Lakers (14-6) are unbeaten in eight games since Del Harris was fired as coach two weeks ago, and 7-0 with Kurt Rambis as head coach and Rodman as one of his players.

Should the Lakers win, the Clippers could break Miami's record tonight at home against the Sacramento Kings in their third game in as many nights.

Hornets 105, Celtics 87

J.R. Reid led seven Charlotte players in double figures with 26 points and the host Hornets made a winner of new coach Paul Silas.

Silas, appointed the team's interim head coach one day earlier following the resignation of Dave Cowens, was making his first appearance Tuesday night as an NBA head coach in nearly 16 years.

By chance, his Charlotte debut came against the team with which he spent much of his 16-year playing career, helping the Celtics to NBA titles in 1974 and 1976.

Derrick Coleman, Charlotte's leading scorer and rebounder, sat out his second straight game to rest a sprained right foot.

He was joined on the bench by starting wing guard Bobby Phills with a possible stress fracture in his left leg.

Antoine Walker had a season-high 32 points for the Celtics, who lost for the fourth time in five games.

Bucks 87, Knicks 86

Patrick Ewing lasted only 29 seconds before leaving with an Achilles' tendon injury, and the Knicks had their eight-game home winning streak snapped.

Dell Curry hit a 3-pointer with 3.4 seconds left for Milwaukee. Latrell Sprewell, who left Curry wide open for the game-winner, missed an open jumper at the buzzer that would have won it for New York.

Ewing, who missed 56 games and the first round of the playoffs last season with a broken wrist, left the court early in the first quarter grimacing in pain from a sore Achilles' tendon. Ewing had an MRI performed on his left Achilles' tendon, which came back negative. His status is day-to-day.

T-Wolves 85, SuperSonics 84

Kevin Garnett scored 12 fourth-quarter points, including a one-handed putback dunk with 18.3 seconds left, as host Minnesota handed Seattle its fourth straight loss.

Garnett had 22 points and 16 rebounds, including a season-high eight on the offensive end. Joe Smith added 10 points and 11 rebounds.

Detlef Schrempf, playing in his 1,000th game, scored 18 points as a reserve for the Sonics, who hadn't lost four in a row since January 1992.

Bulls 103, Nets 87

Toni Kukoc scored 28 and Ron Harper missed just one shot in the first half on his way to a season-high 25 points. All five host Chicago (5-13) starters finished in double figures in the matchup of East tailenders.

It was the Bulls' first 100-point game of the season, and it snapped a three-game losing streak.

Rockets 84, Nuggets 74

Hakeem Olajuwon had 20 points and Scottie Pippen scored 10 of his 17 in the fourth quarter as host Houston handed Denver its fifth straight loss. The Rockets have beaten the Nuggets eight straight times.

Antonio McDyess led Denver with 23 points and Danny Fortson had 15 points and 21 rebounds.

Jazz 88, Cavaliers 75

Karl Malone scored 21 points, and Adam Keefe added a season-high 15 as host Utah welcomed back coach Jerry Sloan, who returned to the bench after missing two games recovering from knee surgery.

The Jazz won their eighth of nine home games and for the 21st time in their last 22 home contests.

Suns 103, Mavericks 91

Cliff Robinson scored 11 of his 18 points in the fourth period, including two 3-pointers, in a game delayed 70 minutes because of a slippery substance on Dallas's Reunion Arena floor.

It was the Suns' eighth consecutive victory over the Mavericks and 25th in the last 27 games.

Tom Gugliotta, Jason Kidd, George McCloud, Danny Manning and Luc Longley all scored in the double figures for the Suns.

Trail Blazers 103, Kings 98

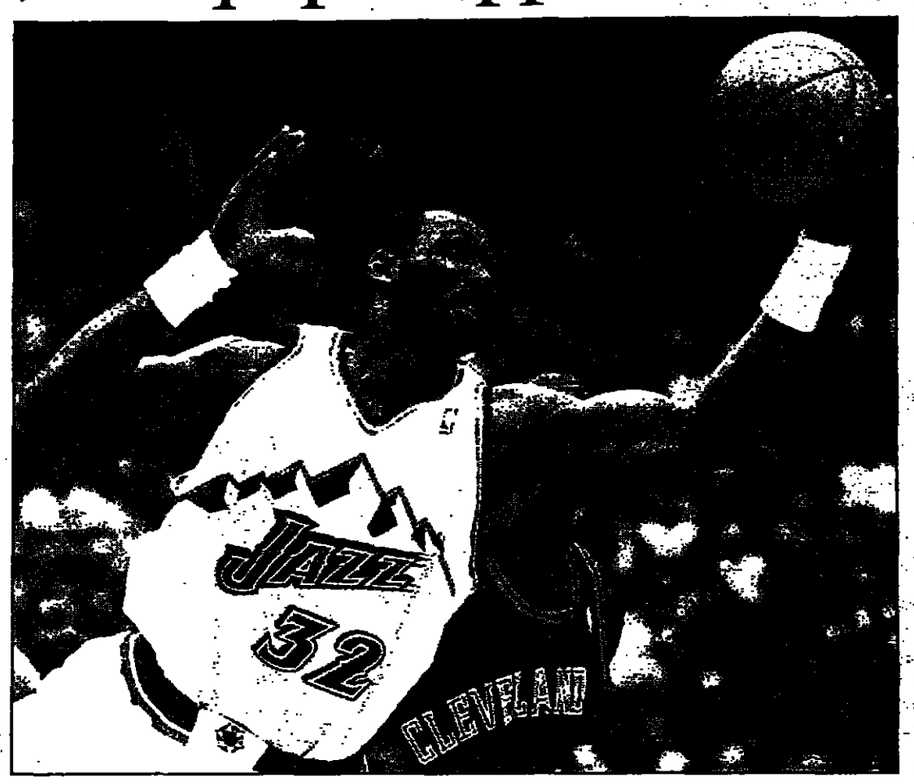
Isaiah Rider scored 21 points and Brian Grant had 19 points and 11 rebounds as host Portland won its eighth straight game.

Arvydas Sabonis added 19 points for the Blazers, who extended their league-best record to 15-3.

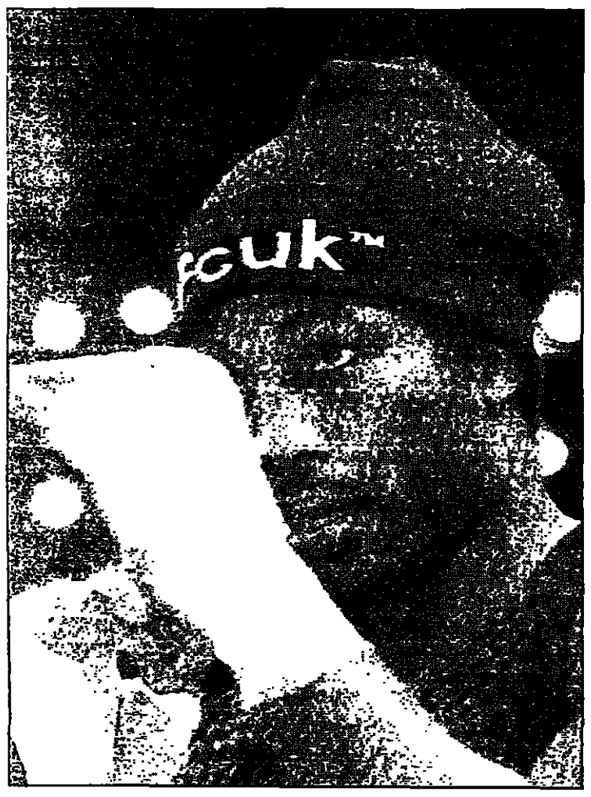
Portland, which won for the 13th time in 14 games and improved to 9-0 at home, used scoring bursts at the beginning of the third and fourth quarters to come from behind against the Kings, the NBA's highest-scoring team at 99.8 points a game.

Warriors 92, Grizzlies 82

Donyell Marshall scored 20 points and Erick Dampier and Bimbo Coles had 17 apiece as Golden State won its sixth straight home game. Dampier matched a career-high with 18 rebounds.



OFFENSIVE BEHAVIOR – Utah's Karl Malone outmaneuvers Cleveland's Shawn Kemp to grab an offensive rebound in first-quarter play. The Jazz won 88-75. (Reuters)



IN HIS SHADOW – Lennox Lewis gets set for favorite Evander Holyfield in Saturday night's heavyweight title bout. (Reuters)

Holyfield reiterates 3rd-round KO boast

NEW YORK (AP) – Evander Holyfield has no second thoughts about his prediction for his heavyweight title fight with Lennox Lewis. "I'm still holding to the truth," he said. "The truth is I'm going to knock him out in the third round."

The 36-year-old IBF-WBA champion, who made the prediction a couple of weeks ago, is the 6-5 favorite to keep his title and add Lewis' WBC championship at Madison Square Garden on Saturday night.

"I'm not asking anybody here to believe that." Holyfield said of his boast after training Tuesday at the Church Street Gym near the tip of Manhattan. "I'm not asking anybody to write that, but you can write it now or write it later."

Holyfield said his prediction has nothing to do with Lewis, "except that Lewis is going to be the opponent. Everybody who fights me has courage and heart and skills."

Lewis, a 33-year-old from Britain, called Holyfield's prediction "preposterous." Asked if he would make a prediction, Lewis, who worked out Tuesday afternoon at The Theater in the Garden complex, replied: "Yes. I'm predicting he will not knock me out in the third round."

When someone wondered why Holyfield seemed so supremely confident for such a major match against such a dangerous opponent, he replied: "I'm a born-again Christian and I believe in the word. Each and every time I'm supposed to be better. It would be wrong for me to be bad."

In his last fight, Holyfield went the 12-round distance in outpointing Vaughn Bean on September 19.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	14	5	.737	–
Miami	13	5	.722	½
New York	10	8	.556	3½
Philadelphia	10	8	.556	3½
Boston	7	9	.438	5½
Washington	7	10	.412	6
New Jersey	3	14	.176	10
Central Division				
Indiana	12	5	.706	–
Milwaukee	11	5	.688	½
Detroit	11	7	.611	1½
Atlanta	9	8	.529	3
Cleveland	7	9	.438	4½
Toronto	6	10	.375	5½
Charlotte	5	11	.313	6½
Chicago	5	13	.278	7½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	14	4	.778	–
Minnesota	12	6	.667	2
Houston	11	8	.579	3½
San Antonio	10	8	.556	4
Dallas	6	14	.300	9
Denver	5	14	.263	9½
Vancouver	4	15	.211	10½
Pacific Division				
Portland	15	3	.833	–
LA. Lakers	14	6	.700	2
Phoenix	10	8	.556	5
Seattle	9	8	.529	5½
Sacramento	9	10	.474	6½
Golden State	8	10	.444	7
LA. Clippers	0	16	.000	14

Milwaukee 16 27 21 23–87
New York 24 21 22 19–86
MILWAUKEE (87) Robinson 12-17 1-1 27, Hill 2-8 4-10 8, Traylor 3-6 2-4 8, Allen 2-11 0-0 6, Brandon 7-15 2-2 17, M.Curry 0-2 0-0 0, E.Johnson 2-3 2-2 6, Del Negro 0-2 0-0 0, Gilliam 3-6 3-4 9, D.Curry 2-4 0-0 6. Totals 33-74 14-23 87.
NEW YORK (86) L.Johnson 8-13 3-5 19, Thomas 0-1 0-0 0, Ewing 0-0 0-0 0, Houston 4-16 5-6 15, Ward 3-9 0-0 7, Dudley 2-4 2-4 8, Sprewell 7-17 2-2 17, Childs 2-7 6-6 12, Camby 5-10 0-2 10, Brunson 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 31-75 76-25 86.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Milwaukee 52 (E.Johnson 7), New York 48 (L.Johnson, Thomas 7). Assists–Milwaukee 21 (Brandon 5), New York 18 (Houston 5). A–19,763 (19,763).

Boston 19 24 20 24– 87
Charlotte 20 26 27 32–105
BOSTON (87) Walker 13-24 6-9 32, Pierce 0-2 0-0 0, Riley 0-0 0-0 0, Mercer 7-18 2-3 16, Anderson 4-14 1-1 9, Battie 2-4 1-2 5, Bowen 0-2 0-0 0, Jones 1-3 0-0 2, Barros 3-10 0-0 6, Minor 0-3 2-2 2, DeClerca 1-2 2-3 4, McCarty 5-6 1-2 11. Totals 36-88 15-22 87.
CHARLOTTE (105) Reid 9-17 6-10 26, Person 5-9 0-0 12, Shackleford 3-6 4-6 10, Wesley 3-10 5-7 11, Davis 3-6 4-4 10, Recasner 6-7 0-0 15, Miller 3-7 6-7 12, Armstrong 2-5 0-0 4, Brown 2-5 1-2 5. Totals 38-72 26-36 105.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Boston 49 (Walker 8), Charlotte 54 (Reid 12). Assists–Boston 20 (Barros, Anderson 6), Charlotte 26 (Wesley 7). A–18,342 (23,799).

Seattle 25 19 20 20–84
Minnesota 25 19 22 19–85
SEATTLE (84) Owens 4-11 0-2 8, Baker 2-6 2-3 6, Polynice 4-9 0-0 8, Hawkins 6-12 0-0 13, Payton 4-16 2-2 10, Schrempf 5-9 6-6 18, Ellis 5-11 0-0 14, Williams 2-5 0-0 4, Barry 1-3 0-0 3. Totals 34-82 10-13 84.
MINNESOTA (85) Garnett 11-21 0-0 22, Smith 5-13 0-0 10, Garnett 5-7 0-0 10, Peeler 4-11 0-0 9, Marbury 5-15 2-2 12, Mitchell 1-7 2-4 5, Sealy 4-9 2-2 10, Hammonds 0-0 1-2 1, Jackson 3-7 0-0 6, Curley 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 38-91 7-10 85.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Seattle 51 (Owens 9), Minnesota 56 (Garnett 18). Assists–Seattle 25 (Payton 10), Minnesota 26 (Marbury 9). A–17,237 (19,006).

Denver 17 24 13 21–75
Houston 24 20 19 21–84
DENVER (75) E.Williams 2-11 2-2 8, McDyess 7-20 9-10 23, Fortson 4-12 7-13 15, Stith 1-1 0-0 2, Van Exel 2-8 2-2 6, Clark 0-0 0-0 0, Billups 2-6 2-3 7, Alexander 1-8 2-2 4, Herrera 1-2 0-0 2, Taylor 3-9 1-1 8. Totals 23-77 25-33 75.
HOUSTON (84) Pippen 7-13 1-1 17, Barkley 3-7 1-2 7, Olajuwon 8-18 4-5 20, Dickerson 5-11 1-2 12, Mobley 5-9 1-2 12, Harrington 3-4 3-4 9, Miller 0-0 0-0 0, Price 2-3 3-5 7, Bullard 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 33-65 14-21 84.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Denver 54 (Fortson 21), Houston 47 (Barkley 13). Assists–Denver 12 (Van Exel 6), Houston 24 (Mobley, Pippen 7). A–16,285 (16,285).

New Jersey 28 21 24 14– 87
Chicago 29 25 30 19–103
NEW JERSEY (87) Gill 3-7 5-10 11, Van Horn 5-10 7-8 17, Williams 10-16 3-4 23, Murdock 2-4 0-0 5, Kittles 4-12 1-2 10, Overton 1-4 4-4 6, McIlvaine 0-0 0-0 0, Burrell 1-6 2-2 4, Harris 4-8 2-2 10, Getting 0-2 1-4 1; Evans 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 30-69 25-36 87.
CHICAGO (103) Kukoc 7-16 13-20 28, Barry 5-11 2-6 14, Simpkins 6-9 0-0 12, Brown 5-7 5-6 16, Harper 11-17 1-2 25, Benjamin 0-4 0-0 0, Carr 3-8 0-0 6, Lang 0-0 0-0 0, David 0-1 2-2 2, Wennington 0-3 0-0 0, Bryant 0-3 0-0 0, Booth 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 37-81 24-36 103.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–New Jersey 52 (Williams 12), Chicago 54 (Simpkins 8). Assists–New Jersey 16 (Murdock 7), Chicago 24 (Barry 6). A–22,207 (21,711).

Phoenix 20 31 21 31–103
Dallas 27 20 22 22– 91
PHOENIX (103) McCloud 7-11 0-0 17, Gugliotta 5-15 2-3 12, Longley 7-9 2-2 16, Robinson 6-14 2-4 15, Kidd 6-15 0-0 13, Manning 7-12 0-0 14, Bailey 1-2 0-0 2, Garrity 1-4 0-0 2, Morris 2-2 4-4 9, Brown 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 42-86 10-13 103.
DALLAS (91) Trent 5-14 3-5 13, Green 3-8 1-2 7, Bradley 4-6 4-4 12, Finley 10-17 1-4 22, Nash 6-15 1-3 15, Walker 7-9 1-3 15, Davis 1-4 0-0 3, Nowitzki 2-4 0-0 4, Ansley 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 38-78 11-27 91.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Phoenix 50 (Manning 8), Dallas 47 (Bradley 14). Assists–Phoenix 26 (Kidd 5), Dallas 26 (Finley 12). A–12,714 (18,042).

Cleveland 13 21 21 20–75
Utah 21 25 20 22–88
CLEVELAND (75) Henderson 3-9 0-0 6, Kemp 3-11 10-11 16, Potapenko 2-5 1-2 5, Knight 1-3 1-2 3, Person 2-7 3-3 10, Sura 1-6 1-2 3, D.Anderson 2-10 4-4 9, Ferry 4-8 1-1 10, Newman 0-2 2-2 2, Lang 0-0 2-2 2, Butler 1-1 3-4 5, Stack 2-2 0-0 4. Totals 22-84 29-33 75.
UTAH (88) Russell 3-7 2-2 9, Malone 8-12 9-15 21, Ostertag 3-6 2-4 8, Hornacek 3-10 4-4 11, Stockton 2-6 4-4 8, Eisley 3-3 3-4 9, Keefe 5-6 6-6 15, S.Anderson 0-1 0-0 0, Bailey 1-3 0-0 2, Vaughn 1-5 2-2 4, Fuller 1-1 0-0 2, Foster 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 28-60 31-41 88.
Fouled out–Kemp, Knight. Potapenko.

Rebounds–Cleveland 37 (Kemp 8), Utah 52 (Ostertag, Keefe, Malone 8). Assists–Cleveland 16 (Knight 6), Utah 22 (Eisley, Malone 6). A–18,753 (19,911).

Sacramento 30 25 15 28– 98
Portland 29 18 31 25–103
SACRAMENTO (98) Williamson 2-8 3-4 7, Webber 7-19 0-2 14, Divac 6-11 3-8 16, Abdul-Wahed 3-8 1-3 7, J.Williams 5-11 2-2 15, Maxwell 2-8 0-0 5, Funderburke 7-9 4-6 18, Barry 3-5 2-2 8, Stojakovic 3-8 0-0 8, James 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 38-87 15-27 98.
PORTLAND (103) Wallace 6-12 1-2 13, Grant 6-14 7-8 19, Sabonis 8-11 2-4 18, Rider 8-20 3-4 21, Stoudamire 5-13 1-2 14, O'Neal 0-2 0-0 0, Cato 1-4 2-2 4, Jackson 3-5 0-0 6, Anthony 2-5 0-0 5, W.Williams 0-1 0-0 0, Augmon 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 41-89 15-22 103.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Sacramento 54 (Divac 16), Portland 51 (Grant 11). Assists–Sacramento 21 (Webber, Maxwell 5), Portland 26 (Stoudamire 7). A–18,147 (18,538).

Vancouver 27 14 22 19–82
Golden State 25 14 28 25–92
VANCOUVER (82) Parks 6-10 0-0 12, Abdur-Rahim 13-31 7-10 35, Reeves 2-5 1-2 5, Lopez 3-7 0-0 6, Bibby 2-9 1-2 6, Smith 2-4 3-5 7, Massenburg 1-2 0-0 2, Mayberry 1-3 0-0 2, Mack 1-4 0-0 2, Chilcutt 2-5 0-0 5. Totals 33-81 12-19 82.
GOLDEN STATE (92) Marshall 9-17 1-2 20, Mills 4-8 1-2 9, Dampier 7-15 3-6 17, Starks 5-13 2-4 13, Delk 4-8 0-2 9, Jamison 0-4 0-0 0, Coles 8-11 1-2 17, Foyle 1-2 0-1 2, Cummings 2-6 0-0 4, Bogues 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 41-86 8-19 92.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Vancouver 45 (Parks 12), Golden State 65 (Dampier 18). Assists–Vancouver 20 (Bibby 5), Golden State 32 (Delk 11). Total fouls–Vancouver 21, Golden State 18. A–10,043 (19,200).

L.A. Lakers 24 23 25 31–103
L.A. Clippers 22 18 18 41– 99
L.A. LAKERS (103) Bryant 4-7 8-10 16, Knight 2-4 1-2 5, O'Neal 10-20 11-16 31, Harper 3-7 1-2 7, Jones 4-10 8-8 16, Fox 1-5 0-0 2, Fisher 4-6 0-0 9, Rodman 2-3 0-4 4, Campbell 3-7 5-6 11, Horry 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 34-71 34-48 103.
L.A. CLIPPERS (99) Nesby 5-10 5-9 18, Taylor 5-14 6-7 24, Wright 4-7 3-5 11, Douglas 2-6 0-2 4, Smith 1-4 1-2 3, Murray 2-11 3-3 7, Rogers 4-8 0-4 8, Close 4-8 1-2 9, Martin 5-8 4-5 18, Skinner 0-2 0-0 0, Robinson 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 35-80 23-39 99.
Fouled out–O'Neal, Murray, Wright, Close. Rebounds–L.A. Lakers 65 (Rodman 20), L.A. Clippers 48 (Wright 10). Assists–L.A. Lakers 13 (Bryant 5), L.A. Clippers 18 (Rogers 5). A–13,360 (16,021).

Offerman picks up Bosox slack

SPRING TRAINING
Baseball

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) – While Jose Offerman hasn't made the Boston Red Sox forget Mo Vaughn, he sure is driving in runs like the departed star.

Offerman, signed by the Red Sox after Vaughn left for Anaheim and the Angels' $80 million, six-year offer, hit his third home run of the spring, going 3-for-4 Tuesday as Boston lost to the Montreal Expos 6-5 in 10 innings.

Offerman, who signed a $26m, four-year contract, said it would be unfair to expect him to replace Vaughn's production.

"I don't have those kinds of numbers," said Offerman, who has never hit more than seven homers in a season during his seven years in the major leagues. "There's no reason for people to expect those kinds of numbers from me. I've just been making good contact."

Cubs 13 (ss), White Sox 2

A more consistent power source, Sammy Sosa, hit his second home run of the spring, a towering two-run, 460-foot drive to left-center that helped lead the Cubs over a White Sox split squad at Mesa, Arizona.

Braves 9, Mets 3 (ss)

Mark Wohlers, the Atlanta Braves' former closer who couldn't find the plate in the majors or minors last season, showed a glimpse of his old form by retiring three of four batters as he pitched a scoreless inning in a loss to a Mets split squad at Kissimmee, Florida.

Wohlers entered in the third inning and gave up a single by Mike Piazza, then retired John Olerud and Craig Paquette on grounders and Robin Ventura on a flyout. Wohlers threw 11 fastballs and one slider.

"The only thing was I didn't get ahead," Wohlers said. "I got behind a couple of hitters and I was able to come back and throw some fastballs. I think Piazza's ball would have been a home run if the wind wasn't blowing in so hard. That's all right. A little luck now and then doesn't hurt."

Royals 5, Indians 3

At Haines City, Fla., Dave Swartzbaugh pitched out of a bases-loaded jam in the ninth inning, and Kansas City took advantage of four errors. Jaret Wright was tagged for four runs and five hits in three innings.

Orioles 8, Cardinals 5

At Jupiter, Fla., backup infielder David Howard, who has 10 homers in 1,501 career at-bats during the regular season, hit two in his first two at-bats.

Yankees 5, Astros 4

At Kissimmee, Fla., Orlando "El Duque" Hernandez struck out five in four innings, and Jerome Walton's two-run single completed a four-run rally.

Phillies 11, Pirates 2

At Clearwater, Fla., Wendell Magee hit two homers and Scott Rolen was 3-for-3 with a homer.

Dodgers (ss) 5, Marlins 3

At Melbourne, Fla., Tripp Cromer hit a two-run homer and drove in three runs. Former Marlin Devon White was 3-for-3.

Mariners 6, Giants 2

At Peoria, Ariz., Ken Griffey Jr. hit his second home run in three games and Dan Wilson drove in three runs. Seattle, which entered with a spring-best .386 team batting average, has scored 42 runs on 79 hits in five games.

Rockies (ss) 12, Brewers 7

At Phoenix, Dante Bichette hit a two-run homer, Vinny Castilla added a solo shot and Larry Walker was 3-for-5 with two triples. All four of Colorado's pitchers gave up home runs. Jeromy Burnitz and rookie Kevin Barker hit two-run homers, and Marquis Grissom and Geoff Jenkins hit solo shots.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأعلى

CRITICS' CHOICE

DANCE

RACHEL BELL

Catch Sigal Lipshitz in her first solo performance of *Stigma*, composed of a blending of the divergent elements of traditional Mizrahi belly dancing and modern dance. Numbers include *Fata Morgana Virgin*, *Man and Woman Created He Both*, and *Interest*, which was inspired by the Friday night Arabic-language movies that the dancer's grandmother was so fond of. Tonight only at Tel Aviv's Suzanne Dellal Center, 9 p.m.

JAZZ

RACHEL BELL

The fifth annual Winter Jazz Festival features local Israeli Jazz artists and guest artists. Designed specifically to present local talent and an ethnic-flavored interpretation of Jazz, musicians make use of traditional instruments, such as Leonid Ptashka's accordion and Uri Miles' Irish flute. Tonight at the Ashdod Auditorium, at 8:30 p.m.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

Pianist Hannah Blachman and her violinist husband Asher perform music by Schubert, Prokofiev and Bartok among others. Tomorrow at Jerusalem's Beit Ticho at 11 a.m.

Belgian tenor Guy de Mey performs Baroque motets and madrigals by Bach, Gabrielli, Schutz and other composers tonight at 8:30 at Kibbutz Mizra, tomorrow at 1 p.m. at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem, and at 9:30 p.m. at the House of Grace Church in Haifa and on Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Enav Center in Tel Aviv.

The superb Jerusalem Quartet performs Saturday at 8:30 p.m at the Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv with works by Haydn, Shostakovich and Beethoven.

The Young Philharmonic Orchestra plays music by Debussy, Beethoven and Stravinsky under the baton of Arthur Weisberg Saturday at 8:30 p.m at the Noga Theater in Jaffa.



Pianist Hannah Blachman and her violinist husband Asher are at Jerusalem's Beit Ticho at 11 a.m.

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Kimberger: Sinfonia in D; Handel: Concerto Grosso in B flat; Mozart: Violin Concerto no 3 in G K216
7:07 C.P.E. Bach: Sonata in A minor; Haydn: String Quartet in G op 33/5 (Mosaique Quartet); Alkan: Concerto da camera in A minor for Piano and Orchestra
8:05 Saint-Saens: Caprice sur des airs danoises et russes for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet and Piano op 79; Dvorak: Rondo in G minor for Cello and Orchestra op 94; Beethoven: Piano Trio in D op 70/1
9:05 Haydn: Piano Sonata no 23 in F; Smetana: From Bohemian Fields and Groves; Shostakovich: Violin Concerto op 99; Dvorak: String Quartet in G op 106; Massenet: Piano Concerto; Saint-Saens: Symphony no 2 op 55
12:00 Noon with Gideon Hod
14:06 Encore – Mendelssohn, Mahler and Rodrigo
15:00 Voice of Music Magazine
16:00 Haydn: String Quartet in C op 54/2; Mozart: Sonata in D for Piano and Violin K306; Weber, Spohr and others: 5 songs; Beethoven: Piano Trio in E flat op 97 "Archduke"; Dochs: 3 Motets
18:00 New CDs – Ravel: Piano Concerto in G / Concerto in D for Piano Left-Hand; Ravel: Valses nobles et sentimentales; Bartok: Cantata Profana; Barber: Prayers of Kierkegaard op 30
20:05 From the Recording Studio – Alon Weber, violin / Revital Hachamov, piano. Reger: Prelude and Fugue for Solo Violin; Martin: Sonata for Violin and Piano; Asher Ben-Yochanan: Soliloquy for Solo Violin; Paganini: Caprice op 1/8; Wieniawski: Theme and Variations for Violin and Piano op 15; Bartok: Romanian Dances for Violin and piano
21:00 Clouds, Celebrations and Sirens
23:00 Art of the Song – Poulenc: La Voix Humaine

RADIOWEST

CNN news on the hour followed by RadioWEST local news
6:00 Morning Drive with Marc Berman (until 9:00).
7:45 Sports Update
8:08 Lions Trust Financial Update
9:00 Morning Brunch with Teisha Bader
12:00 Head to Head with Charlie Levine and Dr. Tom Gumpel
13:00 Memory Lane
15:00 Afternoon Drive with Dr. G
17:45 Sports Update
18:00 Newsmakers with Mordechai Twersky
19:00 Oldies – Music and Trivia with Teisha Bader and Larry Gamliel
21:00 Staying Sane with Dr. Miriam Adahan
22:00 West Rock with Redbeard
1:00 Sleepless in Jerusalem with Aaron Katzman
3:00 Late Night Music (until 6:00)

BBC WORLD SERVICE

6:00 The World Today
7:00 The World Today
8:00 The World Today
9:00 World News
9:15 Outlook
9:55 My Century
10:00 World News
10:05 From Our Own Correspondent
10:20 Off the Shelf: Letters From My Windmill
10:35 The Works
11:00 World News
11:05 Network
11:20 Andy Kershaw's World of Music
11:50 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Britain Today
12:45 Performance
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Assignment
14:00 World News
14:05 Outlook
14:45 Sports Roundup
15:00 Newshour
16:00 World News
16:05 The Works
16:30 Meridian (Books)
17:00 World News
17:05 Sports Roundup
17:15 Westway
17:30 The Greenfield Collection
18:00 World News
18:15 Insight
18:30 The Music Studio
18:45 The Lab
19:00 Europe Today
19:30 World Business Report
19:45 Sports Roundup
20:00 World News
20:15 Britain Today
20:30 Assignment
21:00 World News
21:05 The Works
21:30 From Our Own Correspondent
21:45 Off the Shelf: Letters From My Windmill
22:00 Newshour
23:00 World News
23:05 World Business Report
23:20 Britain Today
23:30 Meridian (Books)
00:00 World News

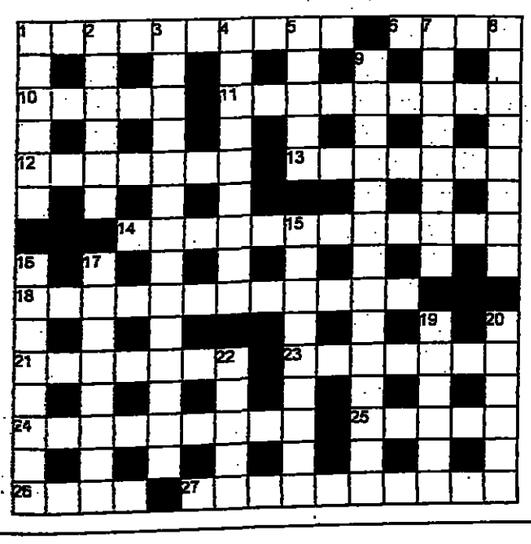
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Veteran promoter of causes (10)
6 Fool envelops monarch with requests (4)
10 Start rolling stone (5)
11 Faulty clue one takes time to clarify (9)
12 Kind of money in bond (7)
13 Where horses should do their level best? (3,4)
14 Action needed when the ball's landed in your court (6,6)
18 Be dangerously frivolous and light? (4,4,4)
21 Players were ahead, so moved defensively (7)
23 Course included one new procedure (7)
24 Hides note, tampered with illicitly (2,3,4)
25 Pair taking fish to group of cats (5)
26 Awkward twist caused death (4)
27 Highly amused at being sewn up? (2,8)

DOWN

1 Alternative of better quality (6)
2 Get the better of boat captain (6)
3 Airy way to take a short cut? (2,3,4,5)
4 With wild rage, goad elderly relative (5-4)
5 In anger, uptight, is going to explode (5)
7 In stable, I got on horse (8)
8 Pleasant exercise, collecting a fragrant flower (5,3)
9 Impure to kill it, perhaps? There's no choice (4,2,2,4,2)
15 Notes turmoil of postponement (9)
16 False description of credit notes (8)
17 Test case involved plastic box (8)
19 Trout, say, caught in the end (6)
20 Fathers, for example, put in wagers (6)
22 Condescend to hear Hamlet (5)

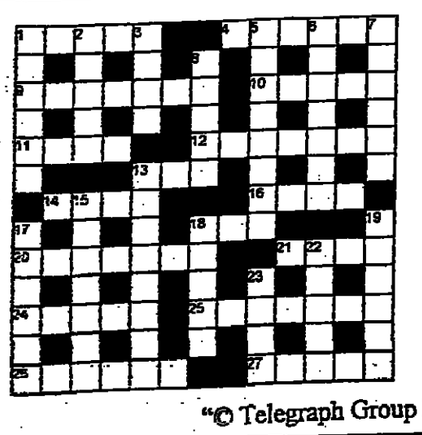


SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Embark, 4 Asian, 8 Feral, 9 Bassoon, 10 Loiters, 11 Eyot, 12 End, 14 Erie, 15 Rope, 18 See, 21 Body, 23 Visions, 25 Unstuck, 26 Iliad, 27 Dross, 28 Agrees. DOWN: 1 Enfold, 2 Barrier, 3 Relieves, 4 Apse, 5 Ivory, 6 Nonets, 7 Abuse, 13 Dressing, 16 Provide, 17 Abound, 19 Evoke, 20 Asides, 23 Disco, 24 Mugs.



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Irish county (5)
4 Beaten (sl.) (6)
9 Early show (7)
10 French money (5)
11 Midday (4)
12 Fern (7)
13 Set down (3)
14 Nordic city (4)
16 Deserve (4)
18 Container for bricks or coal (3)
20 Perfectly (7)
21 Expectorate (4)
24 Octopus (5)
25 Learned (7)
26 Receipt (6)
27 Concede (5)

DOWN

1 Require (6)
2 Quotient (5)
3 Chinese male element (4)
5 Distended (8)
6 Slaughterman (7)
7 Seemly (6)
8 Classic race (5)
13 Sweet (8)
15 Spirit varnish (7)
17 Cured herring (6)
18 God of marriage (5)
19 Wait on (6)
22 Reward (5)
23 Stunted (4)

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TV

CHANNEL 1 (11)

6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Apocalypse Then and Now
8:30 In Italiano
9:00 Dealing With Dogs
9:30 Psychology
10:00 Sesame Street
10:25 For the very young
11:00 Geography
12:00 History
13:00 Music
13:30 Hanni's Room

CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Zap 1
15:40 Heartbreak High
16:30 The Simpsons
16:59 A New Evening
17:35 Click +
18:10 Time for Language
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Encounter
19:00 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 Election Special
20:25 Trump Card
21:00 News
21:35 The Substitute – In Columbus High School violence, drugs, guns and fear are a way of life. When a teacher is violently attacked by one of his pupils, his friend, a mercenary, pretends to be a substitute teacher to get revenge. With Tom Berenger
23:30 News
00:00 Time for Language

CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Shelf
6:00 The Rainbow Children
8:43 Morning with Gabi Gazit and Rivka Michaeli
9:00 Rivka Michaeli
9:55 Fall Guy
10:45 Ink
11:10 Guitar Festival
12:00 Anything But Love
12:26 Jenny and the Captain
12:51 Music
13:00 Woman's Angle
13:30 Kate and Allie
14:00 The Mommies
14:30 Sixth Order
15:00 Power Rangers In Space
15:27 Roseanne
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Street Corner
17:09 Five with Gadi Sukenik
17:30 Open Cards
18:00 Spin City
18:30 Buffy the Vampire Slayer
19:30 Election Diary '99
20:00 News
20:30 Only In Israel
21:30 Rafi Reshef
22:45 Ally McBeal
23:40 Dangerous Liaisons with Dana Modan
00:00 News
00:05 Dangerous Liaisons with Dana Modan – contd.
1:45 High Incident
2:30 Jenny
2:52 Arad festival
3:37 Night Song

JORDAN TV (31)

Passages from the Koran and news until the end of the official 40-day mourning period (March 20) following the death of King Hussein

MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27) (unconfirmed)

7:30 700 Club
8:00 TV Shopping
15:00 Buddy Buddy
15:30 The Bionic Six
18:00 Woody Woodpecker
16:30 White Fang
17:00 700 Club
17:30 Arabic News
18:00 CNN Entertainment
18:30 Coach
19:00 Wiseguy
20:00 Commish
21:00 Movie: Killing at Hell's Gate (1978)
23:00 Late Show with David Letterman
00:00 TV Shopping
2:00 700 Club

CABLE

ITV 3 (33)

16:30 Dictator
17:30 From Day To Day
18:00 Fruits of the Tree of Knowledge
19:00 News in Arabic
19:30 News in Russian
20:00 Great Mysteries & Myths
20:30 Telekasset
21:00 News
21:30 Cafe Theater
22:30 L'Argent (French) – three-part drama based on Emile Zola's novel about an ambitious businessman. With Miou Miou

ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Life Skills
16:00 Hot Science
16:30 Sesame Street
17:00 Arabic Calligraphy
17:15 The Human Body
17:45 Arabic Children's Stories
18:00 Destinos
18:30 Art Workshop
19:00 Apocalypse Then and Now
19:30 Vis-a-vis
19:50 Hello Prima
20:00 A New Evening
20:30 Golden Age
21:00 Access All Areas – Communication and Love Is the Reason: singers talk about their work, featuring Tony Bennett, Joe Cocker and Marianne Faithfull
22:00 In the Heat of the Night
22:45 The New 20th Century

CHANNEL 3

6:30 Love Story with Yossi Sivan (r)
7:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno (r)
7:30 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
8:10 Celeste
9:00 Falcon Crest
9:45 The Young and the Restless (r)
10:30 Days of Our Lives (r)
11:15 Forever Little Women
12:00 Barnaby Jones
12:45 Dallas
13:35 Newsradio
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Ricki Lake
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Forever Little Women
16:45 Days of Our Lives
17:30 Friends
18:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Melrose Place
20:25 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch – new third season
20:50 Just Shoot Me – new third season
21:10 Cupid – new series starring Jeremy Piven as Cupid, who has been exiled to earth and must matchmake without his usual bow and arrow
22:00 Yair Lapid Live at 10
22:30 Seinfeld (r)
23:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno
23:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines
00:15 Nikita
1:05 Babylon 5
1:50 Red Shoe Diaries
2:20 Sleepwalkers – reruns
3:10 Prey
4:00 Spy Game

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Fox Hunt (1996) – comedy about a KGB agent planted in Hollywood to create bad television and rot America's brains. With Rob Lowe, Timothy Bottoms and Gary Coleman
13:00 Buford's Got A Gun (1995) – short with Pamela Reed about a musician whose life is changed by a group of youngsters who move in next door
13:40 Sealed Cargo (1951) – WWII melodrama about a fishing-boat captain who runs across a Nazi ship attempting to supply a U-boat. With Dana Andrews and Claude Rains
15:15 Topaz (1969) – Alfred Hitchcock thriller adapted from a Leon Uris novel. A French intelligence agent explores Soviet involvement in Cuba. With John Forsythe
17:20 The Gift of Love (1994) – an old man loses his will to live when he learns that the heart transplanted in him belonged to his grandson. With Andy Griffith and Blair Brown
18:50 Breaking the Surface: The Greg Louganis Story (1996) – biopic of the Olympic diving champion who has to deal with being homosexual and an HIV carrier while trying to maintain a career. With Mario Lopez and Michael Murphy
20:25 Dying To Be Perfect: The Ellen Hart Pena Story (1997) – a young athlete begins a diet that deteriorates into anorexia. With Crystal Bernard
22:00 From the Earth to the Moon (1998), part 6
23:55 The Madness of King George (1994) – when the benevolent king shows signs of mental instability, the stage is set for court intrigues. With Nigel Hawthorne and Helen Mirren
1:45 Spirit of the Night (1994) – erotic.
3:10 Cyborg Cop (1993, 92 mins.) – a special agent is kidnapped by a mad scientist who turns him into a killing machine. With David Bradley

CHILDREN (5)

6:30 Cartoons
8:05 Simba, Jungle King
8:30 The Little Bits
9:00 Arthur
9:35 The Smurfs
10:00 Ninja Turtles
10:30 Batman
10:55 Dexter's Lab
11:45 Cow and Chicken
12:00 Flipper
13:10 Make Believe Closet
13:30 Simba, Jungle King
14:10 Sharky and George
14:35 Princess Sissi
15:05 The Smurfs
15:35 Ninja Turtles
16:00 Batman
16:40 Dexter's Lab
17:10 Life with Louie
17:35 Breaker High
18:00 Prof. Science
18:10 Sliders
19:00 Saved by the Bell
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 Full House
20:40 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air – reruns
21:10 Lois and Clark

SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 King Kong (1933) – the grand original. A giant gorilla is brought to NYC as an amusement-park attraction, escapes and falls in love with a beautiful woman. With Robert Armstrong and Fay Wray
23:40 A Guy Named Joe (1943, 115 mins.) – a dead WWII pilot returns to earth to help a friend develop his relationship with the pilot's former fiancée. With Spencer Tracy, Irene Dunne, Van Johnson and Lionel Barrymore

CHANNEL 8

6:00 Open University (rpts from Wednesday at 23:20)
8:00 From Monkeys to Apes, part 6 (r)
8:30 Hunt for Amazing Treasures (r)
8:55 Living in Africa: The Survival Age (r)
9:25 Peak Performance: Swimming (r)
9:50 David Helfgott (r)
10:40 Falconry (r)
11:35 Lost Lakes of the Pacific (r)
12:05 World Discoveries (r)
12:30 Travelogue (r)
12:55 Great Crimes and Trials (r)
13:25 Beyond 2000 (r)
13:50 A New World, Saving the Planet (r)
14:15 Lords of the Maya (r)
15:10 Who Wrote the Bible?
16:00 Arctic, part 5
17:00 Open University: The Constitution; Innovators; 300 Million Year War
19:00 World Discoveries: Coffee, the Gold of Kenya
19:30 Great Crimes and Trials
20:05 Beyond 2000
20:30 A New World, Saving the Planet: part 13
21:00 Bridge on the River Kwai – deconstructing the myth of the bridge created by the movie
21:55 In His Own Words: JFK
22:50 David Helfgott (r)
23:40 Open University: American Cinema: Greek Fire; Connection
1:40 World Discoveries (r)
2:05 Great Crimes and Trials (r)
2:30 Beyond 2000 (r)

STAR WORLD (18/15)

6:00 Big Easy (r)
7:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
8:00 Santa Barbara
9:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
9:30 Yan Can Cook, Best of China
10:00 Snowy River, the McGregor Saga
11:00 Mysterious Island
11:30 Small Wonder
12:00 The Brittas Empire
12:30 World News
13:00 World Business Report
13:30 Home Improvement
14:00 World Scariest Police Chases III
15:00 Walker, Texas Ranger
16:00 Thieftakers
17:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
17:30 Home Improvement
18:00 World Scariest Police Chases III
19:00 Walker, Texas Ranger
20:00 Thieftakers
21:00 Home Improvement
21:30 Newhart
22:00 The Brittas Empire
22:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
23:00 The Wonder Years
23:30 Mr. Belvedere
00:00 Aerobics Oz Style
00:30 World News
1:00 Home Improvement
1:30 Candid Camera
2:00 Aerobics Oz Style
2:30 The Brittas Empire

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (17/19)

6:00 Crane River (r)
7:00 CNBC
13:00 Islands of the Iguana
14:00 Crane River (r)
15:00 Silence of the Sea Lions – the mysterious disappearance of the Stellar seallions
15:30 Visions of the Deep – rare undersea footage
16:00 The Prince of Slooghis (r)
16:30 Margaret Mead: An Observer Observed (r)
18:00 The Great Return (r)
18:30 Journey Through the Underworld (r)
19:00 Invisible World (r)
20:00 Ants From Hell – fire ants whose sting can kill
20:30 Beeman – study of killer bees in Panama
21:00 A Passion for Africa – documentary producers Derek and Beverly Joubert
21:30 Ice Walk – the North Pole expedition of Robert Swan
22:30 Buddha on the Silk Road – the silk road in Turkestan and Northwest China and the seventh-century travels of a Buddhist scholar
22:30 Chesapeake Bome – the people and the environment of Chesapeake Bay
23:30 Fire bombers – planes who fight wildfires in the US West
00:00 The Polygamists – a town in Utah where plural marriage is practiced
1:00 Greed, Guns and Wildlife – poaching in America
2:00 Ants From Hell (r)
2:30 Beeman (r)

BBC WORLD (13/14)

News on the hour
6:30 USA Direct
7:30 Money Programme
8:30 Talking Movies (r)
9:30 Hard Talk (r)
10:30 Money Programme
11:30 Hard Talk (r)
12:30 Holiday (r)
13:00 The World Today
14:30 Money Programme
15:00 World News and Business Report
15:30 The World Today
16:30 Top Gear (r)
17:30 Hard Talk
18:30 The Money Programme (r)
19:30 Talking Movies (r)
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (r)
22:30 Panorama
23:30 Wilderness Walks, part 2 – a dog-sled journey from Baffin Island across the frozen sea of Frobisher Bay
00:10 Europe Direct
1:00 World News and Business Report
1:15 Asia Today (r)
2:30 Talking Movies (r)

CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)

News throughout the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:00 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight (r)
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline (r)
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sport
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (r)
12:30 World Sport
13:15 American Edition
13:30 Biz Asia
14:30 Science and Technology
15:15 Asian Edition
15:30 World Report
16:30 Showbiz Today
17:30 World Sport
18:30 Travel Now
19:00 Larry King Live (r)
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business Today
22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight (r)
00:00 World Business Today
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
1:30 Moneyline Newshour
2:30 Showbiz Today

SKY NEWS (14/13)

News on the hour
6:30 Fashion TV
7:30 CBS Evening News
8:00 Sunrise
12:30 Sky World News
13:30 Money
16:30 Your Call
18:30 Sky World News
19:00 Live at Five
21:30 Sportsline
22:30 Sky Business Report
23:30 Sky World News
00:00 Prime Time
2:30 CBS Evening News

CHANNEL 5 (05)

6:30 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 NBA (rpt)
17:45 Indoor League Soccer
18:30 Nat. League Soccer
19:30 Sports News
20:00 European Champions League Soccer
21:00 Boxing
22:00 Dutch League Soccer
23:30 College Basketball
22:00 International Soccer – England vs France

EUROSPORT (15/16)

9:30 Alpine Skiing
10:30 Live Alpine Skiing
11:30 Live Biathlon
13:20 Live Alpine Skiing
16:15 Tennis
18:00 Live Nordic Combined Skiing
19:30 Motorsports
20:00 Tennis – Indian Wells
00:00 World Cup Legends
1:00 Motorsports
1:30 Ski Jumping

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	Election Special	Election Diary '99	Melrose Place		Family Matters	Great Crimes and Trials
20:00		News			Married with Children	Beyond 2000
20:30	Trump Card	Only in Israel	Sabrina	Dying to be Perfect	Full House	A New World
21:00	News		Just Shoot Me		Fresh Prince of Bel Air	Bridge on the River Kwai
21:30	Basketball	Rafi Reshef	Cupid		Lois and Clark	
22:00			Yair Lapid Live at 10	From the Earth to the Moon	King Kong	In His Own Words
22:30		Ally McBeal	Seinfeld			
23:00			The Tonight Show with Jay Leno			David Helfgott

MOVIES

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE The Beautiful Life of Angels 5 • No End 7:15 • Secret Defense 9:15 G.G. Gil. Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 Payback-Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Shakespeare in Love-You've Got Mail-Elizabeth 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:30 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:15, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • ANTZ 4:30
JERUSALEM THEATER Central Station 7, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot American History X 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Destiny of Her Own-Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Waterboy-Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL ☎ 5700888 You've Got Mail 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30
TEL AVIV
DIZENGOFF Lolita 11 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10 • Central Station 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:30, 10 • Character *(Dutch, Hebrew subtitles)* 1, 5:30 • Affliction 11 a.m., 3:15, 7:30 GAT ☎6967888 Thin Red Line 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 GLOBUS ☎6081130/1 Payback 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Shakespeare in Love-Elizabeth 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • You've Got Mail 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • The Truman Show 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5: • Saving Private Ryan 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 6, 9:30 G.G. HOD 1-4 ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • The Big Lebowski 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 LIMOR ☎6968084 Love At Second Glance 8 • Forbidden Love 10 G.G. PE'ER ☎5442141 Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • Shakespeare in Love-Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle American History X 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Waterboy 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Rush Hour 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State F2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • The Siege 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674 Opera House Destiny of Her Own-Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Next Stop Wonderland 5, 7:30, 9:45 • There's Something About Mary-Little Voice 5, 7:30, 9:45
HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎8325755 Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:30 • Character 7:15, 9:30 **CINEMATHEQUE** ☎8383424 The Idiots 6 • The Decalogue 3 8:30 • The Idiots 10:30 **MORIAH** ☎8242477 Happiness Fri. 10:15; Sat. 7:15, 9:30; Sun-Wed. 7:15, 9:30 **ORI** ☎8500056 Payback-You've Got Mail 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Shakespeare in Love-Elizabeth 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:45 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • ANTZ 4:45, 7:15 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 **PANORAMA** ☎8382020 Shakespeare in Love 4:30, 7, 9:30 • You've Got Mail-Central Station 4:30, 7, 9:30 RAV-CHEN ☎8500055 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer-Rush Hour 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • The Water Boy 5, 7:15, 9:30 RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 8674311 Thin Red Line 6, 9 • The Siege 6, 9 RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 8416898 American History X 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Thin Red Line 6, 9 • Life Is Beautiful-I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 4:45, 7, 9:30 • The Waterboy-Rush Hour 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 8246553 Destiny of Her Own-Life Is Beautiful 4:45, 7, 9:30 • Little Voice 5, 7:15, 9:30
AFULA
RAV CHEN ☎6424047 Payback 7:15, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 7:15, 9:30 • Rush Hour 7:15, 9:30
ARAD
STAR ☎9950904 Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:15 • Lolita 7:30, 10 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5
ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • Lolita 4:30, 7:15, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5, 7:30, 10 RAV CHEN ☎8661120 The Waterboy-Rush Hour-There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer-The Siege 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 Payback-You've Got Mail-Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5, 7:30, 10 • Shakespeare in Love 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 RAV CHEN ☎ 6711221 The Waterboy-I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Rush Hour-Little Voice 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎5531077 Payback-I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • The Waterboy-Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Lolita 4:30, 7, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
BEERSHEBA
G.G. ORI ☎6103111 Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5:30 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • Shakespeare in Love F4:45, 7:15, 10
RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎6235278 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy-Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45
EILAT
EILAT CINEMA The Waterboy 7:30, 10 • Rush Hour 7:30, 10 • Thin Red Line 7, 10
GIL ☎6340182 Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30
HERZLIYA
COLONY ☎6902666 Thin Red Line 6:30, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 5:30, 7:30, 10
STAR ☎ 9589088 Payback 7:30, 10 • Thin Red Line 6:45, 9:45 • Rush Hour 7:30, 10
HOD HASHARON
GIL ☎ 7408591 Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5
HOLON
GLOBUS Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • Shakespeare in Love 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Rush Hour 5 • Thin Red Line 6, 9:30 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • Central Station 7:30, 10 STAR I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10
KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 Payback 7:15, 9:30 • Rush Hour 7, 9:30 • Rush Hour 9:30 • The Waterboy 7:15
KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • Shakespeare in Love 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • Shakespeare in Love . 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Rush Hour 9:45 • The Waterboy 5, 7:30 RAV-OASIS 1-3 ☎ 6730687 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer-Payback 5, 7:30, 9:45
RAMAT HASHARON
KOKHAV ☎ 5491979 Central Station 5, 7:15, 9:30
REHOVOT
CHEN ☎ 9362868 Lolita 7:15, 9:45 • Little Voice 7:30, 9:45 • Central Station 7:15, 9:45 • Character 7:15, 9:45 RAV MOR ☎ 9493595 Payback-Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Waterboy-Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Shakespeare in Love-Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
RISHON LEZION
GIL 1-3 ☎ 9500785 Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 HAZAHAV ☎ 9514968 Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • The Waterboy 5 • Shakespear In Love 7:15, 10 • Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 10 • Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 RAV CHEN ☎ 9670504 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • The Waterboy-Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5 • Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 STAR ☎ 9619985 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • Lolita 7:15, 10
SHOHAM
STAR ☎ 9793834 Sliding Doors-• You've Got Mail 7:15, 9:45 • Lolita 7, 9:45
YEHUD
RAV CHEN ☎5367910 The Waterboy-Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Little Voice 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45

KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. GIL ☎8779877 Payback-• Shakespeare in Love -Enemy of the State 7, 9:30 • Lolita-You've Got Mail 7, 9:30 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 7 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 9:30 • The Siege 7, 9:30 • Saving Private Ryan 7, 9:30 • ANTZ 7
KIRYAT MOTSKIN
G.G. GIL Payback 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Central Station 4:30, 7, 9:30 KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎6905080 Payback 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • Lolita 4:30, 9:30
NAHARIYA
G.G. GIL Payback-Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 10 • Shakespeare In Love 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5
NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 Payback 5, 7:30, 10 • Shakespeare In Love-Elizabeth 4:45, 7:15 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5
NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Payback-Central Station 5, 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Prince of Egypt *(Hebrew dialogue)* 5 • Shakespeare In Love 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 RAV CHEN ☎ 8618570 Thin Red Line 6:15, 9:30 • Rush Hour 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Waterboy 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5
OR AKIVA
RAV CH

Devilish glee



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Going for broke



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Sports Editors: Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

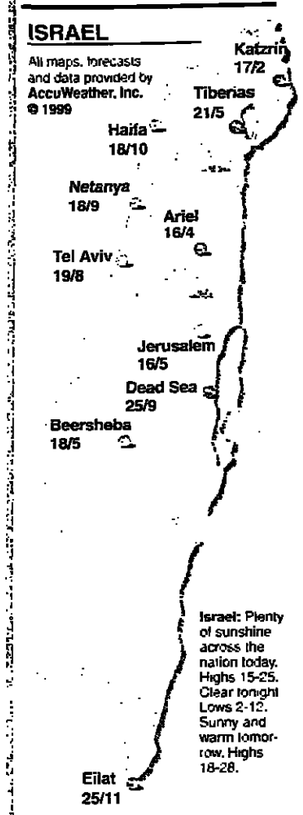
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Israel: Plenty of sunshine across the nation today. Highs 15-25. Clear tonight. Lows 2-12. Sunny and warm tomorrow. Highs 18-28.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Friday High C/F	Friday Low/W C/F
Ariel	16/61	4/39/s	19/66	6/43/s
Beersheba	18/64	5/41/s	19/66	7/44/s
Dead Sea	25/77	9/48/s	27/80	11/52/s
Eilat	25/77	11/52/s	28/82	13/55/s
Haifa	18/64	10/50/s	19/66	11/52/s
Jerusalem	16/61	5/41/s	18/64	7/44/s
Katzrin	17/62	2/35/s	19/66	4/39/s
Netanya	18/64	9/48/s	19/66	10/50/s
Tel Aviv	19/66	8/46/s	20/68	9/48/s
Tiberias	21/70	5/41/s	23/73	8/46/s

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

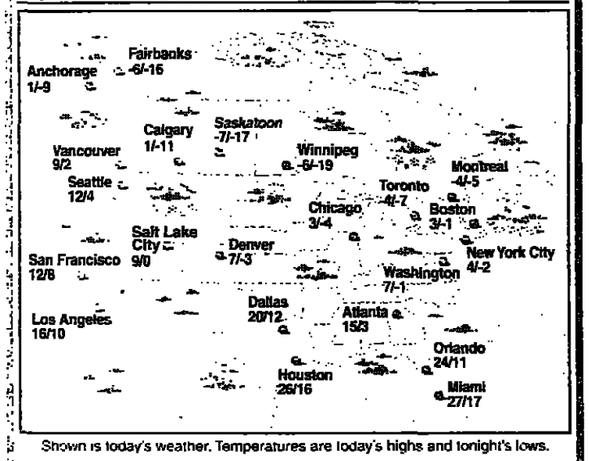
City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Friday High C/F	Friday Low/W C/F
Amsterdam	8/46	6/43/pc	13/55	11/52/sh
Beijing	5/41	4/39/sn	12/53	7/44/sh
Berlin	5/41	-1/31/pc	8/46	6/43/pc
Brussels	9/48	9/48/pc	15/59	12/53/r
Cairo	22/71	9/48/s	23/73	9/48/s
Chicago	3/37	-4/25/pc	3/37	-6/22/s
Frankfurt	6/43	-4/25/c	8/46	3/37/pc
Hong Kong	21/70	17/62/pc	23/73	20/68/pc
Johannesburg	26/82	16/61/pc	32/89	17/62/pc
London	8/46	6/43/sh	13/55	7/44/c
Los Angeles	16/61	10/50/sh	20/68	9/48/s
Madrid	17/62	7/44/c	16/61	5/41/sh
Mexico City	29/84	9/48/s	27/80	11/52/s
Montreal	-4/25	-5/23/sf	2/35	-6/22/pc
Moscow	-4/25	-7/20/c	-2/29	-6/22/sn
New York	4/39	-2/29/pc	6/43	-3/27/sf
Paris	10/50	8/46/c	15/59	10/50/sh
Prague	6/43	-2/29/pc	11/52	6/43/c
Rio de Janeiro	30/86	23/73/t	30/86	24/75/t
Rome	17/62	8/46/pc	20/68	9/48/s
Sydney	24/75	16/61/pc	23/73	17/62/s
Tokyo	9/48	4/39/c	6/43	2/35/s
Toronto	4/25	-7/20/c	1/34	-5/24/pc
Vienna	12/53	0/32/pc	11/52	7/44/pc
Warsaw	4/39	-1/31/sn	1/34	-4/25/c
Washington	7/44	-1/31/s	7/44	-2/29/pc
Zurich	10/50	9/48/r	15/59	8/46/sh

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

MOON PHASES

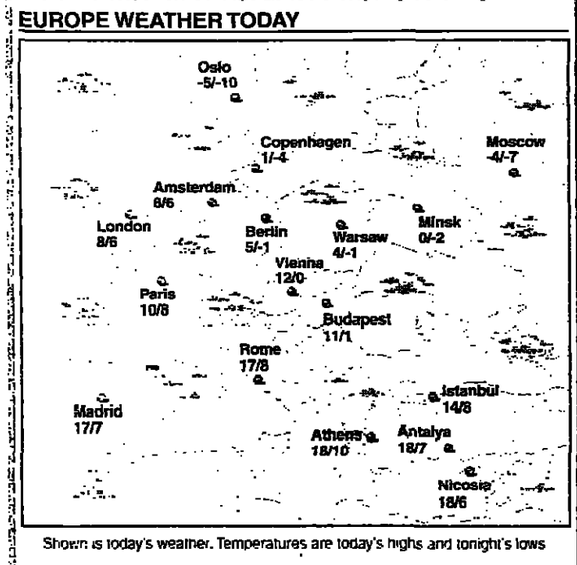
Last	New	First	Full
Mar 10	Mar 17	Mar 24	Apr 1

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows

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Ramat Hasharon women in European hoops final

By HEATHER CHAIT

Ramat Hasharon's women's basketball team burst into the headlines last night, six days after Maccabi Tel Aviv's men's side dropped off the European map for this season.

Ramat Hasharon has rewritten Israeli basketball history by qualifying for the final of the Ronchetti Cup, the first Israeli women's basketball team ever to reach a European final.

They beat Bordeaux 82-75 (49-32).

In the final they will face Italy's Prioli who beat Las Palmas from Spain in the other semi-final.

The finals will be held at Ramat Hasharon on March 24 with the away game postponed from March 31, Pessah eve, to April 1.

After Ramat Hasharon beat Bordeaux in the first game in France last week, local pundits were betting on a place in the final but few anticipated a performance with such finesse from the current league champions.

Outstanding players for Ramat Hasharon were Yugoslavian-born, Israeli national Mila Nikolic with 24 points and Americans Vicky Johnson (19) and Bonny Dove (16).

Cheered on by a capacity crowd of 1,500, the team seized control from the start, leading 10-2 after three minutes and pushing the pressure on the French who seemed entirely taken aback.

As the second half began, the home team lapsed briefly, dropping to an 11-point aggregate difference in their favor, but under coach Orna Ostfeld's guidance, they managed to recapture the momentum, enjoying a 14-point advantage with three minutes to spare.

Ramat Hasharon's players let the visitors close the gap in the dying seconds of the game as the crowds and the champagne began to flow onto the court, but their place in Europe was already assured.



Chelsea's Italian midfielder Roberto Di Matteo (right) tries to tackle Manchester United's Ryan Giggs in the FA Cup quarter-final replay at Stamford Bridge last night. (Reuters)

Yorke's two goals send United to FA Cup semis

LONDON (Reuters) – Dwight Yorke struck twice to lead Manchester United to a 2-0 win over Chelsea last night and secure an FA Cup semifinal against holders Arsenal next month.

Yorke, who scored both goals when United beat Inter Milan 2-0 in the first leg of their European Cup quarter-final last Wednesday, scored one in each half of this quarter-final replay to take his tally for the season to 26.

The sides had battled to a 0-0 draw at Old Trafford on Sunday, but Yorke needed only four minutes to break the deadlock when he volleyed home from close range after Chelsea failed to clear a David Beckham free kick.

His second in the 59th minute came after fellow striker Andy Cole dispossessed French defender Marcel Desailly, leaving Yorke to strike a looping shot over Chelsea keeper Ed de Goey.

United knocked Chelsea out of the Cup at Stamford Bridge last season when they beat them 5-3 in a third round tie, and have now beaten them four times in the Cup in the last six seasons.

The win keeps United, top of the premier league, on course for their third Cup and League double of the 1990s.

But they face a severe test against Arsenal, who have double ambitions of their own when they meet in the semifinal at Villa Park on April 11.

Champions Arsenal are four points behind United in the league and lead Chelsea on goal difference.

Newcastle United, beaten 2-0 in last year's final by Arsenal, will play either Barnsley or Tottenham Hotspur in the other semifinal at Old Trafford on the same day.

The Barnsley-Tottenham quarter-final will be played on March 16 after being postponed because of heavy snow last Saturday.

In league action last night, Aston Villa, who has slipped from first to fifth in the standings since Christmas, lost to 2-1 to Derby despite the return of keeper Mark Bosnich and striker Stan Collymore.

At the City Ground, Dietmar Hamann scored in the 73rd minute to give Newcastle a 2-1 win over Nottingham Forest.

Leeds created a four-point buffer between the top four teams and Aston Villa with a 2-0 win over Tottenham.

Alan Smith scored in the 42nd minute to edge the Rams ahead 1-0 at halftime and Australian international Harry Kewell clinched the result with a goal in the 68th minute.

At Ewood Park, Everton striker Ibrahima Bakayoko scored a goal in each half to give the Merseysiders a come-from-behind 2-1 win over Blackburn.

Israel show their class in 2-0 win over Romania

By OFER RONEN-ABELS

Goals by Ronen Harazi and Walid Bdir saw Israel's national soccer team beat Romania 2-0 in a friendly international in Bucharest last night.

The result marked a repeat of Israel's impressive achievement from last year when they beat Romania 1-0, and increased the number of victories to three in 19 meetings between the two sides.

The result will act as a boost to the confidence of the Israelis ahead of the important European Championship qualifying group 5 match against Cyprus later this month.

As the Romanians included two strikers in their starting lineup, coach Shlomo Scharf was forced to start with three center backs in his defense.

Th trio – Ran Ben-Shimon, Amir Shelah and Arik Benado were solid throughout the match, as was Maccabi Haifa's Alon Harazi who played on the right side of the defense, limiting Valencia's Adrian Ilie to only two chances on Nir Davidovich's goal.

Hapoel Haifa's Najwan Grayeb caused the Romanian defense most problems as his darting runs down the left wing created a number of chances for the visitors.

Israel took the lead in the 17th minute through Ronen Harazi who, scored his 23rd goal in international colors.

Alon Harazi's deep cross from the right was headed across goal by Tal Banin before Ronen Harazi's shot deflected off Liviu Ciobotariu to beat veteran 'keeper Bogdan Stelea in goal.

West Ham's Eyal Berkovic dominated the play in midfield before he was taken off in the 35th minute due to an injury. He was replaced by Avi Tikva.

Avi Nimni failed to rise to the occasion, Maccabi Tel Aviv's talented midfielder was caught with the ball at his feet on too many occasions.

Scharf must have been pleased with the result at half time as he didn't make any changes to his formation after the interval.

A minute before the hour mark Gheorghe Craioveanu passed the ball to Ilie on the edge of the box. Ilie chested the ball down before releasing a shot which flew inches wide of Davodovich's left post.

Five minutes later, Bdir who was unmarked, squeezed past three defenders to head his debut goal for the national team as Stelea was caught out of position after a corner by Tikva.

Maccabi Haifa's Davidovich rewarded Scharf for keeping faith in him after his blunder against Lokomotiv Moscow.

Davidovich produced the save of the game after Viorel Moldovan tried to chip the Israeli keeper from the edge of the box in the 67th minute.

Idan Tal replaced Nimni and Nir Sivilia replaced Ronen Harazi with eight minutes left on the clock. Seconds after coming on, both combined well as Sivilia headed a flick which set Tal free but his attempt to round Stelea was thwarted by the Romanian.

"It was a great achievement to win in Bucharest again," Scharf said after the match.

Ronnen Harazi said: "The Romaninans had all their best players but we played a perfect match against a very good side."

"It is good to start confidently and that makes things easier for everybody, including me," said Davidovich.

In another matter, Clive Hart, who acts as Alon Harazi's representative in England, has dismissed reports in the local press regarding the immediate transfer of the Israel defender to Premeirship side Nottingham Forest.

"I can assure you that Forest didn't watch Harazi in Bucharest and will not be making a bid before the English deadline," Hart told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. "However, there are several possibilities in the summer," he added.

Reports yesterday in the Hebrew had suggested that scouts would be watching the 28-year-old in Bucharest.



Ronnen Harazi (No. 10) is congratulated by his teammates after scoring Israel's first goal in Bucharest last night. (Reuters)

DiMaggio funeral set for today

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) – Joe DiMaggio's family wants his funeral to be as private as the man.

Only about 30 relatives and close friends will attend the service today at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, where DiMaggio married his first wife, Dorothy Arnold, in 1939.

"Joe insisted that his funeral be a private, religious service, and his family is intent on carrying out his wishes," said Morris Engelberg, DiMaggio's friend and attorney.

"George Steinbrenner asked to come. So did Reggie Jackson and a lot of other people he knew and liked, but the family had to say 'no,'" Engelberg said.

The church's twin steeples tower over the North Beach section of San Francisco where DiMaggio spent most of his childhood.

The funeral procession will drive into Beach Street in San Francisco's Marina section where the DiMaggio family lived as it makes its way to the Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma, where DiMaggio will be buried.

DiMaggio's only son, Joe Jr., will be one of the pallbearers. The two had been estranged and had not seen each other in two years.

Other pallbearers will be Roger Stein and James Hamra, the husbands of DiMaggio's two granddaughters; Joseph DiMaggio, son of the ballplayer's late brother, Mike; Joe Nacchio, a friend of DiMaggio's for 59 years, and Engelberg.

"There will be memorial services in other parts of the country," Engelberg said. "Steinbrenner said there would be one at Yankee Stadium in the Memorial Park there. And, there are plans to erect a monument next to the one for Babe Ruth."

DiMaggio's body was flown from Miami to San Francisco late Monday on private jet. The Hall of Famer died Monday at age 84 at his home in Hollywood, Florida.

DiMaggio divorced Arnold in 1943. DiMaggio wed Marilyn Monroe in 1954 and they divorced later that year.

Spring Training roundup, Page 18

Under-18's Euro finals hopes fade

Israel's under-18 soccer team saw their hopes of reaching the the European Championship finals effectively ended after they lost 2-0 to hosts Spain in Cadiz yesterday.

Israel will complete their four nations qualifying tournament on Friday when they play England.

The English are favorites to top the group and qualify for the play-off against Norway after beating Andorra 8-0 yesterday.

On Sunday, Israel beat Andorra 2-0, while Spain and England drew 1-1. *Ofer Ronen-Abels*

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